

ÉDITION DE LUXE

No. 746

MARCH 15, 1884

THE  
**GRAPHIC.**  
AN  
ILLUSTRATED  
WEEKLY  
NEWSPAPER.



\*STRAND\*

190

\*LONDON\*

PRICE NINEPENCE





# THE GEOGRAPHIC

AN ILLUSTRATED WEEKLY NEWSPAPER

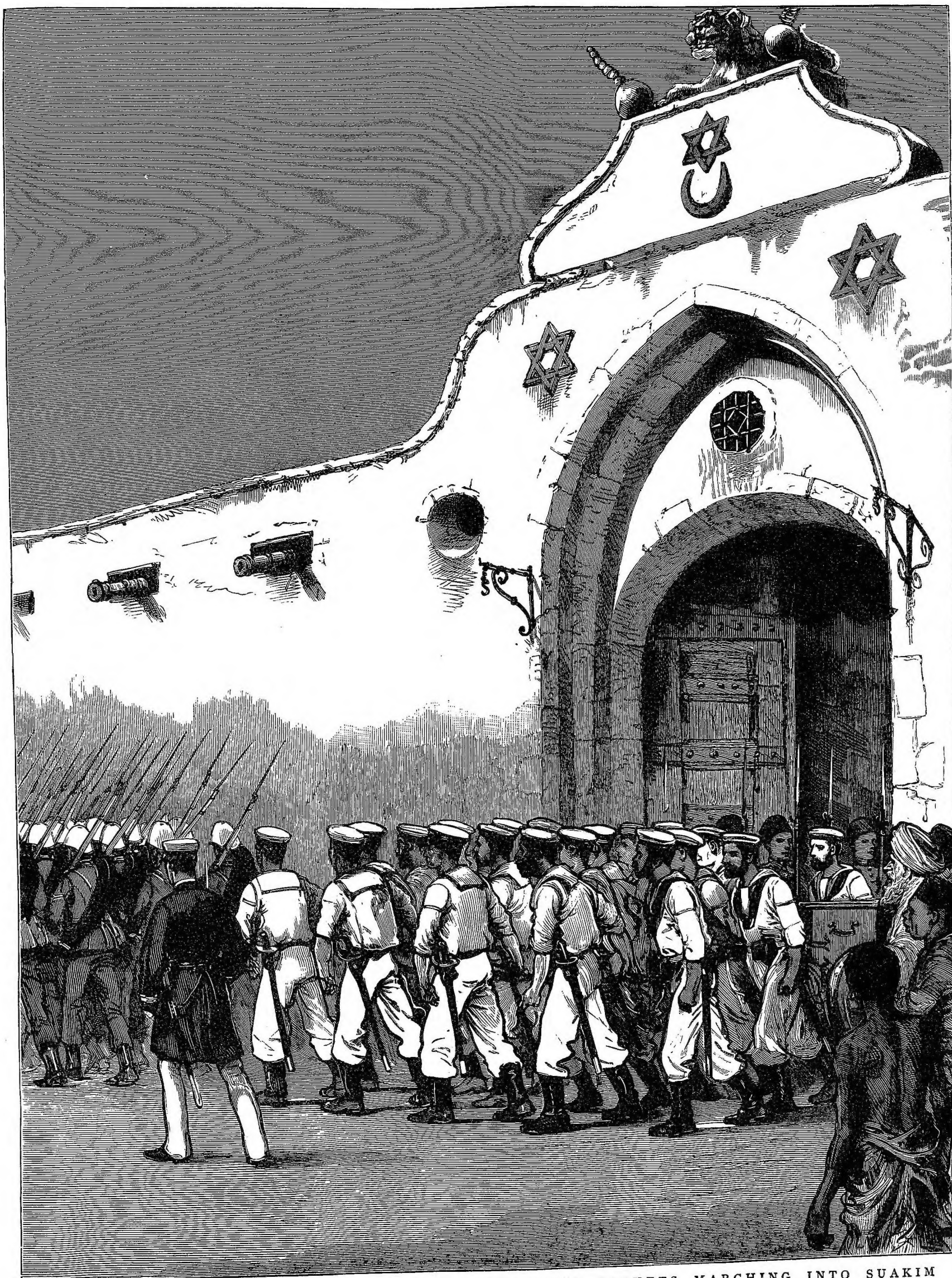
No. 746.—VOL. XXIX.  
*Registered as a Newspaper*

ÉDITION  
DE LUXE

SATURDAY, MARCH 15, 1884

WITH EXTRA  
SUPPLEMENT

PRICE NINEPENCE  
*By Post Ninepence Halfpenny*



THE REBELLION IN THE SOUDAN—MARINES AND BLUE JACKETS MARCHING INTO SUAKIM  
FROM A SKETCH BY A MILITARY OFFICER



## Topics of the Week

**OSMAN DIGMA'S DEFEAT.**—If it be admitted that we are morally justified in fighting with the so-called "Rebels" in the Soudan, it is satisfactory to learn that Osman Digma's forces have been driven from their rifle-pits and entrenchments by our troops. The wonder is that after such a severe defeat as that of the 29th ult., at El Teb, these brave savages should again venture to measure their strength with the British. If Osman Digma had decided to adopt a more prudent system of tactics, he might have given General Graham endless trouble. Already the weather is getting terribly hot in those regions, and if the Mahdi's lieutenant had retired inland he might have worn out our troops by fatiguing marches, without ever allowing them to come to close quarters. Every one ought to regret that it should be our fate to slaughter such daring fellows as our opponents are for the sake of supporting the poltroons who are the nominal rulers of Egypt. The war cannot in any sense be called a glorious war, the enemy are completely overmatched by our superior armaments, and, therefore, we can only hope that these two successive defeats may teach the "Rebels" to submit, and thus avoid the further effusion of blood.

**"RESCUE AND RETIRE."**—Mr. Gladstone is not likely in any formal manner to repudiate the policy of "rescue and retire," which he has so often set forth in the House of Commons. Practically, however, this policy has already been abandoned. In Egypt Proper everything that is being done for the reorganisation of the administrative system is being done by English officials; and although, possibly, we may withdraw from the country when their work is completed, it is now all but universally acknowledged that stable methods of government cannot be quickly established among a people who, if left to themselves, would immediately relapse into a state of anarchy. Whether the phrase be liked or not, an English Protectorate exists in Egypt, and it is certain to exist there for a very long time. The prospects of the Soudan are not quite so clear; but Lord Hartington's remarkable speech on Monday showed distinctly that, so far as the Eastern Soudan is concerned, it may not, after all, be so easy to "rescue and retire" as Mr. Gladstone lately supposed. Lord Hartington declared that the Red Sea littoral must "be held either by a civilised Power, or by a Power which is under the influence of a civilised Power." This was, of course, a roundabout way of saying that the Red Sea littoral must be held either by England directly, or by Egypt under the supremacy of England. And it is obvious that no other conclusion could have been arrived at, unless England was prepared to imperil the safety of the main route to India, and to abandon all serious attempts to crush the slave trade. But can the Red Sea littoral be dominated by England without reference to the condition of the country between Suakim and Khartoum? No one who has given the slightest attention to the subject pretends that it can. The State of which Khartoum is to be the centre must be a State organised and governed in a manner of which England could approve; and all the world sees that no such State could be formed under the rule of a man like Zebhr Pasha. The force of circumstances has compelled the Government to recognise these facts; and it is not to the credit of Mr. Gladstone and his colleagues that they should not have foreseen what was pretty obvious, months ago, to many persons who had not, like them, access to special sources of information.

**THE PARKS RAILWAY.**—The railway from Paddington to Westminster would be such a boon to London that we have not much patience with those who have been trying to impose almost impracticable conditions on its promoters. At the same time it is well that all railway schemes should be closely watched, and we should be glad to see those projected for the poorer quarters of the metropolis as diligently studied as this one of the Parks has been. Generally speaking the railway companies have things all their own way when not cutting through the West End or the City. They tunnel with little regard to the houses above their lines, which must take their chance of cracking or sinking; they build embankments without any forethought as to the requirements of traffic in a growing neighbourhood, so that, having neglected to put arches where it was obvious they would be required as means of communication between new quarters, they are often found to have erected a barrier between two halves of the same parish. As a general rule, except in certain "playground" districts—Lakeland for example—where the primitive wildness of the country should be left untouched, new railways minister to the public convenience; but promoters should for their own sake and that of the public be dealt with on some equal plan. They should not be free to do here what they are forbidden to do there.

**"MERVOUSNESS."**—The Duke of Argyll, who is not usually jocular, invented this phrase a few years ago, and the ridicule of alarmist prophecies which it implies has hitherto been justified by events. It was confidently asserted that Merv was the key to India, and our statesmen attached such importance to it that they extracted a sort of promise

from the Russian Foreign Office that Merv should not be annexed. We say a sort of promise, because it seems to have been of a kind which can be kept in word, but broken in deed. But the surprising thing is that Merv has been annexed, and that the public in this country is not much excited about it. At all events, the explanations given some weeks ago by Sir Charles Dilke in the House of Commons, and by Lord Northbrook and others last Monday evening in the House of Lords, satisfy reasonable people that this last acquisition of the onward-moving Muscovite does not materially increase the risks to which our *Raj* in India is exposed. If the Russians should ever resolve to attack our Indian possessions there are more favourable routes than that which passes by Merv. Indeed, now that the Russian and Indian territories are so close together, it is really to be regretted that they are not conterminous. It would be far pleasanter to stand face to face with a great civilised Power, than with a weak disorganised country like Afghanistan, where petty border-squabbles can easily be heated red-hot by the judicious application of money and intrigue. In conclusion, it is somewhat rash positively to assert that Russia wants India, *quâ* India, at all. Even if we offered her the peninsula as a free gift, she would find it a grievous burden to manage, and her officials, hailing as they do from regions of "thick-ribbed ice," would suffer from the heat far more than Englishmen do. But what Russia does want, and has set her heart on getting, is a seaboard open to the ocean at all seasons, and subject to no foreign veto. This, except in remote Kamtschatka, she does not possess. Germany and Scandinavia hold the key of the Baltic; non-Russian Europe, nominally through Turkey, that of the Dardanelles. We say plainly that, as a great Power, Russia deserves to possess such an outlet, and, if she can obtain it in Asia Minor, or in the Persian Gulf, she will not meddle with India.

**DESPONDING REFORMERS.**—The advocates of municipal reform in London are in anything but a sanguine mood. Weeks have passed since the opening of the Session, yet nothing has yet been said about the introduction of the Municipality Bill; and the chances seem to be that nothing will be heard of it in the House of Commons before Easter. It is not very clear on whose shoulders the responsibility for this delay is thrown; but that somebody is very much to blame Mr. Firth's supporters have no doubt; and it is stated that some of them have resolved to organise a great demonstration in Hyde Park. After all, however, they ought to ask themselves whether their chief difficulty does not spring from the indifference of the public to the proposed change. Again and again we have been assured that the people of London, with a few unimportant exceptions, are longing for the measure of which Sir William Harcourt is to have charge. If this be so, we can only say that the people of London have a very wonderful power of hiding their feelings. It is true that there is a general wish for an improved system of municipal administration; but it does not at all follow that there is a general approval of a particular set of proposals for the settlement of the question. In the first place, we do not believe that the City Corporation, at which ardent reformers are so fond of girding, is in any sense unpopular. It rules the City efficiently; in its attempts to secure open spaces for the community it has given striking evidence of public spirit; and its antiquity, instead of being an argument against it, is a very strong argument in its favour. Again, it is evident that it will be very difficult for a central body to give adequate attention to the wants of each district; and the experience of Paris and New York does not encourage us to hope that a Council representing all London will be remarkable either for its economy or for its detestation of jobbery. It may be found that Sir William Harcourt is in a position to solve a very complicated problem; but in the mean time his revelations are awaited by most persons with a patience which is decidedly disheartening to zealous agitators.

**GIRL GRADUATES.**—The admission of women to Oxford honours and degrees will not bring up a very large crop of girl graduates; but it will contribute, as concessions of the same kind elsewhere have done, to that general improvement in the position of women which has been one of the best things in the English progress of recent times. The girl who has taken University honours will, as assistant schoolmistress or governess, command a far higher salary than she could have obtained a generation ago. A governess who had 100*l.* a year was formerly thought to be magnificently paid; now there are governesses who receive 300*l.* or 400*l.*, which means that they can put by enough to be independent in their old age, instead of having to fall back upon friends, or to eke out the last years of their laborious lives in pinching poverty. Female work of all kinds has been better remunerated since women have been allowed to do the best they can with their talents, and since professions once closed to them have been thrown open. England may take honour for having set a good example in discarding the prejudices which long pressed so hardly against women; and our English girls have not become less womanly; since, getting better value for their work, they have grown at once more industrious and more self-reliant.

**OUR HANGMAN.**—Why the Sheriffs of the City of London should appoint an official whose duties summon him to all parts of the United Kingdom, we do not know; but it

is one of those anomalous arrangements of which Englishmen are rather proud. It is not easy to get a very nice man to act as hangman, and no doubt the City authorities chose the best they could find; but the question remains whether under another system of selection a more dignified and efficient occupant of the office than the present executioner could not be found. There is something revolting in the idea of a man who is officially about to kill a fellow-creature being under the influence of intoxication when doing so; and yet this, as well as other indecencies, was charged against Mr. Binns when he hanged young Maclean at Liverpool. Some time ago we recommended that the post should be offered to a military or naval officer, who should be provided with proper subordinates to do the actual pinioning and rope-arranging. We do not see any reason why a man who has worn Her Majesty's uniform should scorn to hold such an appointment. A moralist might say that it is less wrong, and therefore less dishonourable, to kill a bad man by the Queen's orders in a prison yard, than to kill a presumably good man by the same authority on a battle-field. However this may be, we believe that, if an adequate salary were offered, a suitable candidate for the post would be obtained. The great point for which we contend is that a man of education and position should be directly responsible for the management of these grisly functions. The subordinate part of the business might be done, as has been recommended, by warders from the convict prisons.

**FRANCE AND HER SCHOOLMASTERS.**—By a large majority the French Chamber postponed the other day the settlement of the question whether the salaries of teachers in elementary schools should be raised. The Government had no funds at its disposal, and it was not inclined to impose new burdens on the taxpayers. That it should have shrunk from incurring fresh expenditure was not surprising; but it certainly is surprising that France should not have preferred to develop her system of popular education rather than to engage in costly, perilous, and useless enterprises in Madagascar and Tonkin. It used to be regarded as a commonplace by a large number of English people that in almost all social arrangements France was far ahead of her neighbours; and she was especially praised for the excellence of her schools. But, so far as elementary education is concerned, she has been for many years steadily falling behind her most important rivals. It would be ridiculous to compare her popular schools with those of Germany; and even England, since the passing of the Education Act, has in this respect secured a place to which France has no pretensions. It might be thought that, even with a view to the much talked-of war of revenge, Frenchmen would be anxious to redress this inequality; for they can hardly expect that an ignorant peasantry will provide them with an army fit to cope with intelligent German soldiers. In industry and trade, too, now that education counts for so much in almost every kind of craft, they must ultimately suffer from the backward intellectual condition of the people. If the Republicans were as prudent and as statesmanlike as they profess to be, this is the subject to which they would chiefly devote their attention; and they would begin by making generous provision somehow for the whole class of primary schoolmasters, who are vastly more important to the State than the great majority of professional politicians.

**PRIVATE INQUIRY OFFICES.**—Every now and then we hear of private detectives misconducting themselves, and the recent exposure of one of this class, who wormed some information out of an actress by hoaxing her into the belief that she had inherited 3,000*l.*, showed up a very ugly story of unscrupulousness. But Private Inquiry Offices now play so large a part in our social arrangements, that in cases of this sort our indignation must be directed rather against the persons who misuse these institutions than against the agencies themselves. There is competition in this as in other trades; and the private detectives are, after all, no more unscrupulous than those who employ them. A man goes to the Private Inquirer, pays for information, and expects to get it promptly, without troubling himself as to how it will be got. Generally it is information not easy to procure, or it would not be paid for; and often the purchaser knows quite well, from having made some bungling attempts of his own, that it cannot be obtained in any legitimate manner. But to be mean, untruthful, or treacherous vicariously, appears to some men to be no sin at all. It is a queer sort of conscientiousness, and reacts upon the detective, who, by a comfortable process of reasoning, comes to think that a lie is no lie if he has been paid to tell it.

**NEGROES IN THE UNITED STATES.**—Considering that America, by which we mean "the States," is, of all foreign countries, the most interesting to Englishmen, the news which is imported thence by journalistic enterprise is meagre and unsatisfactory. The under-sea cable has of course killed the freshness of the letters which, twenty years ago, gave the latest news; but surely the electric wire might be employed to flash more interesting items than at present. Apart from politics pure and simple, the budget usually consists of floods, fires, railway crashes, stock-jobbing machinations, and plentiful puffs of Mr. Henry Irving and Miss Ellen Terry, of whose tour the world has surely heard enough. Turning to the American newspapers, one is surprised to find various subjects of importance concerning which little or



nothing is heard in this country. To take only a single instance. Many English people fancy that there is no Negro Question in America. They know that Lincoln freed the slaves, and they presume that now all is smooth between white and coloured people. It is not so. In many parts of the South the black man is worse off now than he was during the military occupation of those States which followed the collapse of the Confederacy; in some respects he is worse off than he was before he received his freedom. Political enfranchisement is the chief cause of his misery. He knows his friends. He would like to "go" Republican; but he is very often obliged either to abstain from polling altogether, or to vote the Democratic ticket. Let those who fancy that the Ku-Klux-Klan and similar organisations are things of the past read the inquiries now proceeding before the United States Senate into the election riots at Danville, Virginia; and the political assassinations in Mississippi. In some parts so strained are the relations between blacks and whites that it is seriously proposed to place the former, like the Red Indians, in a territory of their own. As there are 6,000,000 persons of Negro lineage in the United States, the "trouble" is of national importance.

MR. SPENCER AND THE HOUSE OF COMMONS.—In replying to the proposal that he should allow himself to be nominated as a candidate for the representation of Leicester, Mr. Herbert Spencer stated pretty plainly what he thought of the present condition of the House of Commons. In many respects Mr. Spencer differs widely both from Liberals and from Conservatives. Whether rightly or wrongly, the two parties have for many years been helping to enlarge the functions of the State, while Mr. Spencer's first principle in politics is that the only proper business of the State is to protect individuals and the community from aggression. In former times it would have been possible for him to maintain this doctrine in Parliament; but now, he says, members are not in the old sense representatives, but delegates. They must do exactly what they are told by the majority of those who have elected them, or resign their seats to persons of a less independent spirit. The state of Mr. Spencer's health would not permit him in any case to undertake political duties; but even if he were physically robust, he would prefer to influence opinion as a writer rather than spend his time in registering the decrees of a constituency. Perhaps the House of Commons is not yet quite so subservient as Mr. Spencer asserts; but that he marks correctly the chief political tendency of our time no one who reads the newspapers will dispute. Few members have now courage to give a vote that would displease their constituents, and by their constituents are meant, in too many instances, committees and associations of local busybodies. There cannot be the slightest doubt that in the end this state of things will have a most injurious effect; for men of great intellectual vigour will not devote themselves to a career in which they will have no chance of expressing original ideas, or even of acting with perfect frankness. One unexpected result of the tyranny of the Caucus may be to give fresh importance to the House of Lords, the members of which can still afford to set forth their genuine opinions about the course of public affairs.

NOVELS AND MUDIE.—The *Pall Mall Gazette* has recently been interviewing the world-renowned Mudie, of New Oxford Street. Among the observations elicited from that bookish hero, one of the most interesting is that: "Novels do not pay. They are the fuel that drives the engine. They become ashes too soon." It is the literature proper, it would appear, the *belles lettres*, history, biography, philosophy, essays, and travels, which make the business profitable. This is a remarkable revelation. Most of us fancied that Mr. Mudie, if taken up out of his ocean of fiction, would gasp and die like a fish out of water; and now it seems that he would not be displeased if, so far as novels are concerned, the circulating library system came to an end. In our opinion, this system will not die for a long time. There is no alternative between hiring and buying; and, as people generally only want to read a novel once, they prefer to pay threepence for hiring it rather than a shilling for buying it out-and-out. Should its reputation become more enduring, it can always be obtained later on in a cheap edition. The publication of three-volume novels must pay somebody (even allowing that a portion of them are issued at the authors' risk and expense), for they were never so numerous as now. We do not suppose we in this newspaper office receive all that are published, yet we get sent for review about one for every working day—that is, about 300 a year. This is exclusive of one-volume works and stories which are usually classed as juvenile literature. If there be now an embryo Scott, or Dickens, or Thackeray in existence, he may well shrink from entering the lists against such a host of competitors. Sixty, forty, nay, even twenty years ago the field was comparatively unoccupied.

POPULAR PREACHERS.—In this season of Lent people seek good preachers, and are disappointed to find so few. Remembering what a big book the Clergy List is, and considering how enormous would be the volume that contained the names of ministers of all denominations, it surprises one on first reflection that pulpit orators of the first order should be so scarce. But the reason of this is that very few clergymen devote themselves seriously to preaching.

They have fifty things to do, and preaching, being but one of these, suffers from the attention paid to the other forty-nine. There are journalists who write an extraordinary number of good articles in a year, and artists who produce pleasing sketches week after week, but no writer could compose fifty-two good essays of three newspaper-columns' length each in a twelvemonth, and no artist could turn out the same number of passable sketches, unless both—artist and writer—gave up their minds entirely to their work. A sermon, to be effective, must be composed at leisure; its "points" must be rehearsed in private; and, finally, it must be delivered in a well-trained voice, with suitable gestures and expression. All this requires study. The clergyman who has no time for study must be rarely gifted if he retains any power to preach; as for the clergyman whose duties are light, and who yet preaches badly, he may congratulate himself upon having entered the only profession where a man is always credited with having done his best, even when he persistently does ill.

NOTICE.—With this Number is issued an EXTRA SUPPLEMENT, printed in colours, and entitled "MR. BLUNDERBORE IN SOCIETY."



INSTITUTE OF PAINTERS in OIL-COLOURS, PICCADILLY.—FIRST EXHIBITION will CLOSE SATURDAY, March 15. Open from 10 a.m. till 5 p.m. Admission 1s. Illustrated Catalogue, 1s. H. F. PHILLIPS, Secretary.

THE ANNUAL SPRING EXHIBITION OF PICTURES by ENGLISH AND CONTINENTAL ARTISTS, including M. FORTUNY'S Picture "IN THE VATICAN," is NOW OPEN at ARTHUR TOOTH and SONS' NEW GALLERIES, 5 and 6, Haymarket, opposite Her Majesty's Theatre. Admission, One Shilling, including Catalogue.

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SPORTSMAN'S EXHIBITION.—LAST DAY.—The THIRD ANNUAL SPORTSMAN'S EXHIBITION will be held at the Agricultural Hall, London.

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OF THE GRAPHIC

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It is hoped also that this *Edition de Luxe* may conduce to a closer and more critical examination by the public than is generally accorded to the pages of a newspaper.

This comparative neglect is doubtless owing, in a great degree, to the general belief that everything connected with a *News* paper must be hurriedly, and, therefore, imperfectly executed, but it may not, perhaps, be generally known that many of our world-renowned Painters have found their first expression at the hands of the Artist in these pages.

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THE REBELLION IN THE SOUDAN

MARINES AND BLUE-JACKETS ENTERING SUAKIM

MAJOR G. D. GILES writes on February 19th:—"The first instalments of the reinforcements which reached Suakim were the Marines and Blue-jackets in H.M.S. *Carysfort*. There was great excitement to see them, and splendid men they are. The Egyptian Gendarmérie band preceded them, then came the Marines, and after them the Blue-jackets, dragging a field gun. My sketch was taken just as they were coming through the gate of the Custom House, near where they had landed.

THE FIRST ARRIVAL OF BRITISH TROOPS AT SUAKIM

"My next sketch represents the first arrival of British troops at Suakim. The 10th Hussars were on their way to England from India in the *Junna*. At Aden they were told that they would be required for service in the Soudan. Their horses and saddles had been left behind, and they had to do the best they could with Egyptian steeds. A space had been cleared for them in the camp, and in a short time their tents were pitched. The horses belonging to the Egyptian Gendarmes were then handed over to them. The equipment with their horses was hardly what an English trooper is accustomed to; but every one set to work with a will, and in the evening the regiment was ready to take the field."

TRINKITAT FROM THE SEA

THIS illustration is from a sketch by Assistant-Paymaster H. L. Hoskyn, R.N., and represents a view of Trinkitat from H.M.S. *Junna*. We have already described Trinkitat, which, it may be remembered, is a few hours' sail from Suakim, and formed the place of disembarkment both for Baker Pasha's force and that of General Graham. The landing-place is a long slip of land, between which and the mainland lies an extensive marsh, the crossing of which offers no small difficulty to infantry and artillery.

THE "TUG OF WAR"—SHIPPING CAMELS ON BOARD THE "MEHALLAH" AT SUEZ FOR SUAKIM

THIS sketch is by Lieutenant Middlemass, R.N., who writes:—"The camels are brought alongside the ship by their former Bedouin owners, and are then taken one by one and put on board the steamer. I have had the embarkment of all—some 700—and have consequently got into the way of it. The men going with the camels are quite useless. As the Bedouins declined to go, the drivers are Egyptians, most of whom have never handled a camel. In many ships I had to hoist them on board, but with others I was able to walk them on to the deck. The proper way is to get hold of the animal's nose, as this makes him more tractable. About a dozen men lay hold of a line attached to his head, and then comes the 'tug of war.' With the help of half-a-dozen sticks and whips the most obstinate and frightened camel is thus persuaded to embark at the rate of twenty-five in an hour."

LIEUTENANT F. H. PROBYN

LIEUT. FRANCIS HOEL PROBYN, second son of Mr. W. G. Probyn, late Bengal Civil Service, and a nephew of Lieut.-General Sir Dighton Probyn, V.C., was born on the 17th January, 1855. Entering the army in 1874, he was posted to the 40th Regiment. He joined the Bengal Staff Corps in 1879, served with the 17th Bengal Cavalry during the Afghan campaign of 1878-79 (for which he received the War Medal), and was subsequently appointed to the 9th Bengal Cavalry. He entered the Staff College at the end of 1881, and passed out last December. Lieutenant Probyn left London with the Indian mails on the 15th of February, and succeeded in reaching Trinkitat before General Graham's force marched from that place. At his own earnest solicitation he was attached to the 10th Hussars, and, it is believed, was the first to fall in the gallant charge of that regiment at El Teh, on the 29th February. Lieutenant Probyn was a most promising young officer, and an enthusiast in his profession. He took second place at the entrance examination for the army, and passed through the Staff College with distinction.—The portrait is from a photograph of Lieutenant Probyn in the Bengal Cavalry uniform, taken by Lock and Whitfield, of Regent Street.

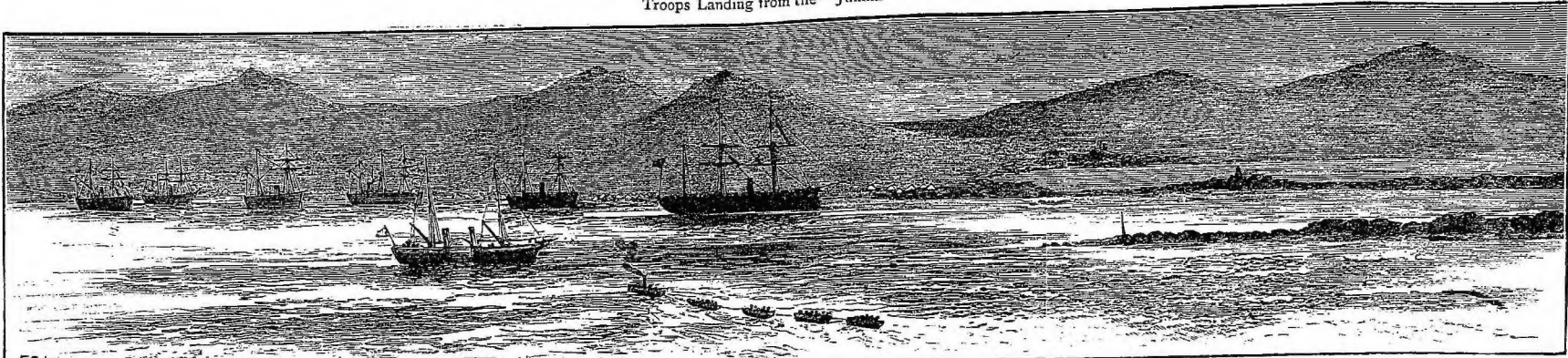
MAJOR SLADE

MAJOR MONTAGU MAULE SLADE, 10th Royal Hussars, was born in 1849. He was the second surviving son of Lieutenant-General Sir Marcus Slade, sometime Lieutenant-Governor of Guernsey, and Charlotte, daughter of the Hon. Andrew Ramsay, son of the Earl of Dalhousie. He joined the 18th Hussars in 1868, and was transferred to the 10th Hussars on his obtaining his Captaincy in 1878, with which regiment he served through the first Afghan Campaign, and was mentioned in despatches. From the account of the correspondent of the *Daily*



Troops Landing from the "Jumna"

Enemy's Position (Lately Baker's)



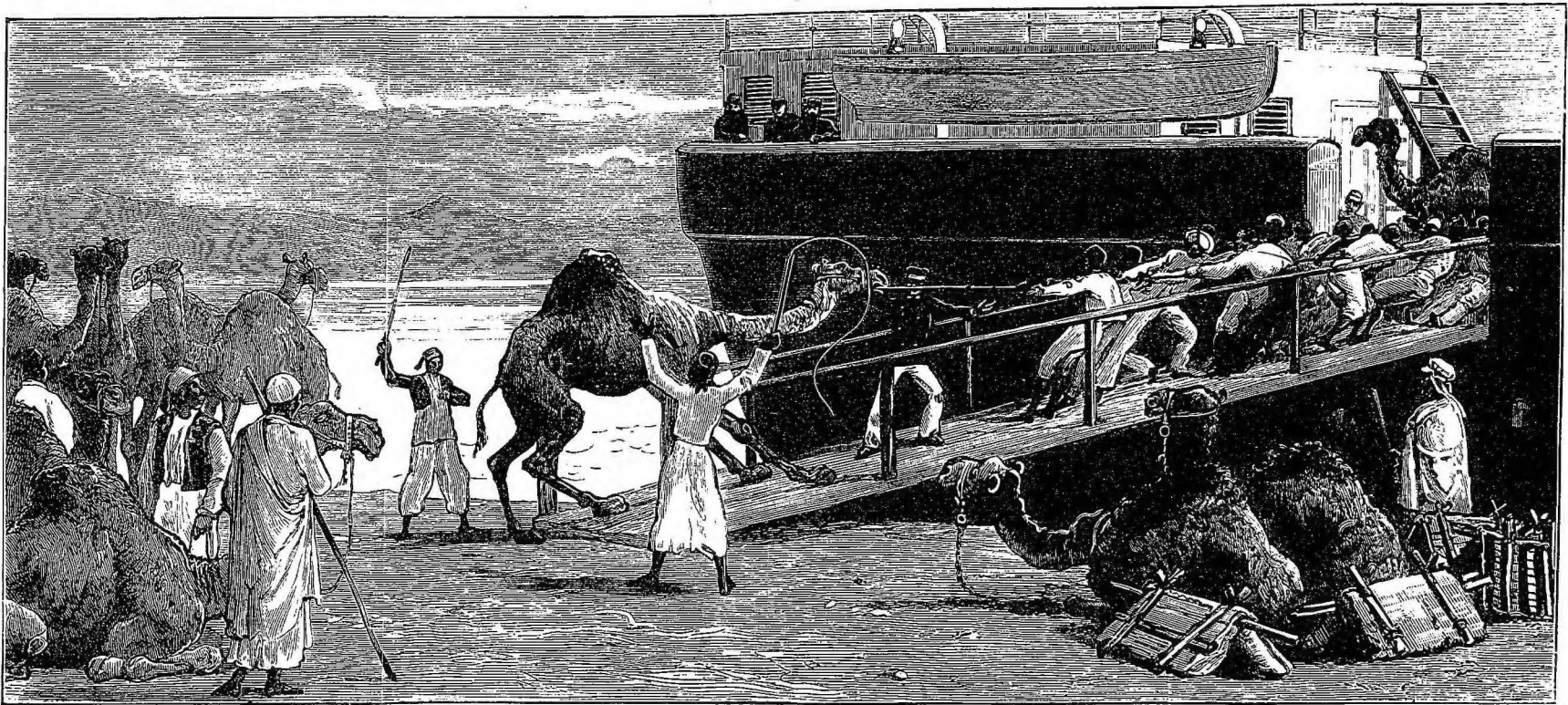
Egyptian Transports Condensing Water

H.M.S. "Sphinx"

H.M.S. "Carysfort"

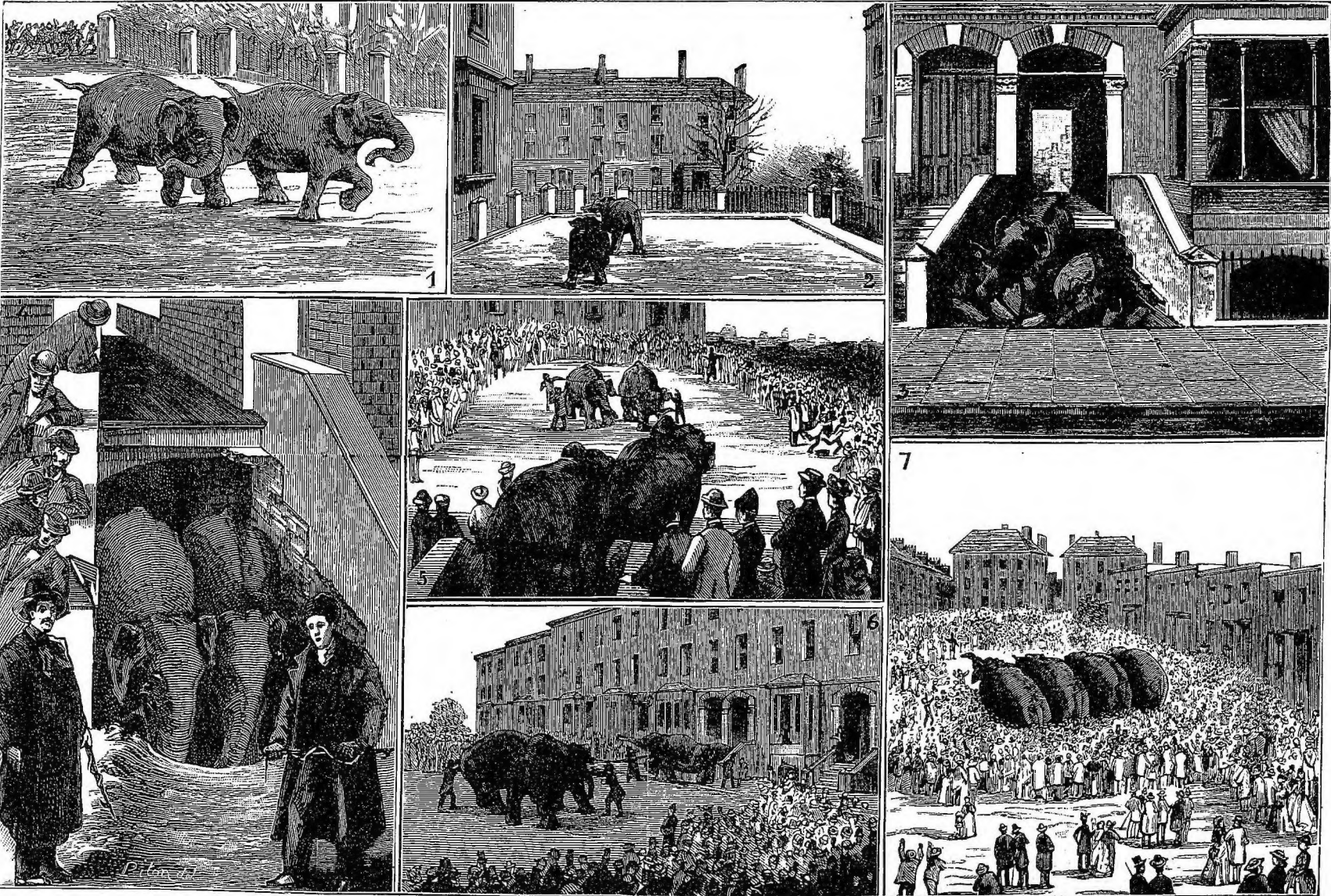
British Tents

BRITISH TRANSPORTS AND WAR VESSELS AT TRINKITAT—DISEMBARKING TROOPS FOR THE RELIEF OF TOKAR, FEB. 23  
From a Sketch by a Naval Officer



SHIPPING CAMELS AT SUEZ FOR SUAKIM  
From a Sketch by a Naval Officer

THE REBELLION IN THE SOUDAN



1. They Break Loose, and Run Gaily Down Cathcart Hill.—2. They Enter a Passage Leading from Francis Terrace to Pemberton Gardens.—3. They Fall Into a Cellar in Pemberton Gardens.—4. Here They Remain.—5. Until the Arrival of Help.—6. When They are Pulled Out of the Cellar.—7. And Go Off Contentedly with their Rescuers.

THE STRANGE ADVENTURES OF TWO RUNAWAY ELEPHANTS IN KENTISH TOWN, LONDON





LIEUTENANT FRANK MASSIE ROYDS, R.N.  
H.M.S. "Carysfort"  
Died of a Wound Received at the Second Battle of Teb, Feb. 29, 1884



LIEUTENANT F. H. PROBYN  
9th Bengal Cavalry (Attached to 10th Hussars)  
Killed at the Second Battle of Teb, Feb. 29, 1884



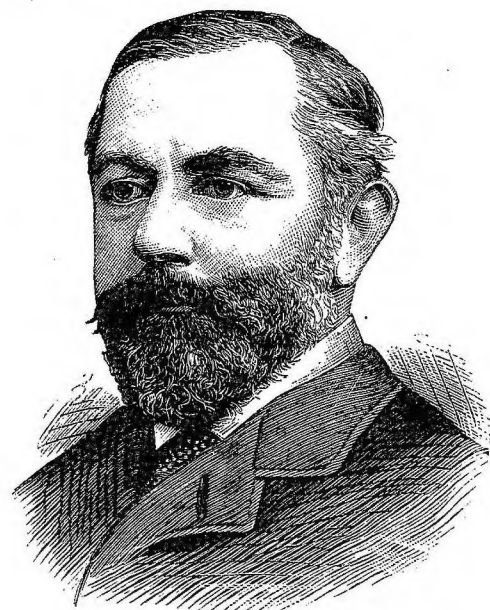
MAJOR MONTAGU MAULE SLADE  
10th Hussars  
Killed at the Second Battle of Teb, Feb. 29, 1884



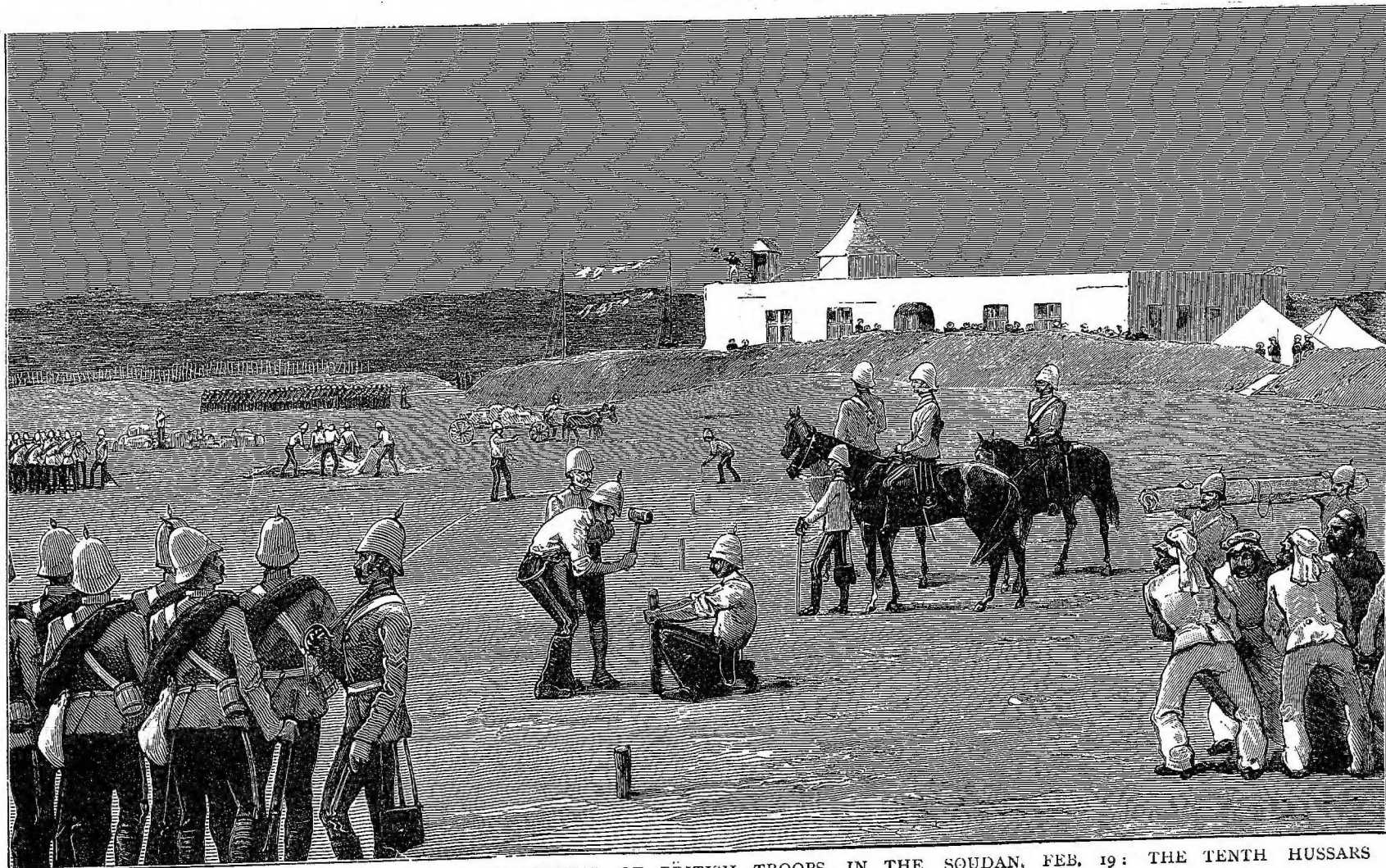
QUARTERMASTER J. WILKINS  
3rd King's Royal Rifles  
Killed at the Second Battle of Teb, Feb. 29, 1884



RIGHT HON. T. MILNER GIBSON  
One of the Leaders of the Anti-Corn Law League,  
And one of the Chief Workers for the Removal of the Taxes  
on Knowledge  
Born 1807; Died February 25, 1884



MR. W. T. MARRIOTT, Q.C.  
The Recently-Elected Conservative Member for Brighton



THE REBELLION IN THE SOUDAN—FIRST ARRIVAL OF BRITISH TROOPS IN THE SOUDAN, FEB. 19: THE TENTH HUSSARS  
ENCAMPED AT SUAKIM  
FROM A SKETCH BY A MILITARY OFFICER



*News* this gallant officer lost his life in endeavouring to save that of Lieutenant Probyn. He has two brothers serving at present in the Royal Artillery—Major J. R. Slade, C.B., who was present in command of a battery of Horse Artillery at Maiwand, and honourably mentioned, and Captain F. G. Slade, who has served with distinction through the Zulu, Egyptian, and present Soudan campaigns.—Our portrait is from a photograph by Jabez Hughes, Ryde, Isle of Wight.

#### QUARTERMASTER WILKINS

QUARTERMASTER JAMES WILKINS, 3rd Battalion King's Royal Rifle Corps, was born in 1848, and at the age of nineteen entered the army, and for many years served in the ranks, until, in 1882, his bravery in the battle of Tel-el-Kebir procured him his commission. Previous to that he was engaged in the South African War, from 1879 to 1881, taking part in the Zulu Campaign, and being present at the relief of Ekowe under Lord Chelmsford, and during the Transvaal War. His conduct during the action on the Ingogo River, under Sir Evelyn Wood, in the Transvaal, was particularly mentioned in the despatches, and he received Her Majesty's special medal for distinguished conduct in the field. In the Egyptian War he was present at Kassassin and Tel-el-Kebir. Since that battle he has been quartered at Cairo. He accompanied General Graham's expedition for the relief of Tokar, and was killed at El Teb.—Our portrait is from a photograph by H. Kisch, Maritzburg, Natal.

#### LIEUTENANT ROYDS

LIEUTENANT FRANK MASSIE ROYDS, of H.M.S. *Carysfort*, was only twenty-seven years of age at the time of his death. He was the eldest son of the Rev. Francis Coulman Royds, Rector of Coddington, Chester, and Cornelia Frances, daughter of the Rev. G. B. Blomfield, of Mollington Hall, Canon of Chester, and a great-nephew of the late Bishop Blomfield. He joined the Navy in 1870, and served successively on the *Agincourt* and *Achilles*. When a Sub-Lieutenant Mr. Royds was appointed to the *Bacchante*, in 1879, with the Prince of Wales' two sons, on their first voyage. On his promotion to the rank of Lieutenant in 1880 he was again asked to join the *Bacchante*, but was unable to do so, and was appointed to the *Carysfort*, which accompanied the *Bacchante* in her second cruise. After cruising with the Flying Squadron to Australia and China, his vessel joined the Mediterranean Squadron, and upon the seizure of Ismailia and the Suez Canal by Admiral Seymour, Lieutenant Royds distinguished himself by accurately ascertaining the direction of Nefiche from the mast-head of his vessel, and thus directing the fire which drove the Rebels from their camp, and overturned a railway train. By thus blocking the line he stopped all communication between the Rebel forces to the southward and those at Tel-el-Kebir, and made the position at Ismailia perfectly secure. Though one of the junior Lieutenants, he was subsequently engaged in the operations at Kassassin and Tel-el-Kebir, and when the relief of Tokar was decided upon, he was given a responsible post—the command of the Naval Brigade in charge of the Gatling guns at El Teb. He was shot through the chest while gallantly handling the Gatling gun in a hot quarter; and at his own request was taken back to his vessel at Trinkitat by Dr. Gimlette, under escort of Blue-jackets of the *Carysfort*. He died of his wound on the following Sunday, and was buried at sea with all honours. He had lately been selected for service in the *Britannia*, officers' training-ship, at Dartmouth, but neither the shore prospect nor the compliment suggested by the offer, tempted him. He preferred active service.—Our portrait is from a photograph by Tattle and Co., Elizabeth Street, Melbourne.

#### BRITISH OFFICERS ON THEIR WAY TO TEB

OUR special artist, Mr. F. Villiers, writes from on board the *Northumbria*, on February 25th, as follows:—"To-morrow morning at eight we shall be at Suakim. We have been very lucky in arriving so soon at our destination. For eleven days and nights we have travelled incessantly to get in time if possible for the Tokar expedition. To avoid being blocked in the Suez Canal I, with some officers, clubbed together, and hired a company's launch to Suez, where I secured a passage in this vessel. But for this we should have been delayed at least two days. Until then our journey had been excessively rough and unpleasant. We long to get ashore once more." The sketches, some of which were taken on board the launch, and the others on the transport, tell their own story, but in explanation of "Punishment for Insubordination," however, he writes that "the unfortunate prisoner was caught sleeping on duty, and struck his officer when reproved. He was placed on half rations, and tied up for two hours each day until the end of the voyage. He seemed to feel his position acutely, and cried very much." On Tuesday we received a telegram from Mr. Villiers, "Self and Giles at battle. Self only artist at Tokar."

#### RUNAWAY ELEPHANTS

FOUR large elephants, belonging to Messrs. Sanger, who had arranged to give a circus performance at Gospel Oak, arrived safely on Sunday at the Kentish Town Goods Depot of the Midland Railway. Soon after they were removed from the trucks, the elephants became frightened by the whistling of the engines. Two of them ran up the yard, knocked down with ease the huge gates of the enclosure, and rushed up the Junction Road towards the Archway Tavern, followed by crowds of people. After proceeding along the Junction Road for some distance the animals turned into Francis Terrace, and here coming into contact with the doors of a temporary passage between Numbers 29 and 31, Pemberton Gardens, they knocked them down. Passing through the opening, the foremost animal stepped upon a coal cellar, the crown of which gave way beneath its weight, and it was precipitated to the bottom. Here "Palm" and "Ida," such were the names of the trunks, were imprisoned for an hour and a half. Then the keepers brought their kinsmen "Jim" and "Rose," chains were attached to the imprisoned animals, and, aided by a timely exhibition of buns, they were drawn out of the cellar, none the worse for their mishap, and conducted to Gospel Oak. A child was knocked down by the elephants soon after their escape, and one of the keepers had his collar-bone broken by being thrown down when they first ran away.

#### THE RIGHT HON. T. MILNER GIBSON

DIED on board his yacht, the *Resolute*, at Algiers, on the 25th ult. Although he had for some time withdrawn from political life, Mr. Milner Gibson took a prominent part in the events of the earlier half of this century, and will always be remembered for his association with Messrs. Bright and Cobden in the Anti-Corn-Law agitation, and in the movement for the repeal of the "taxes upon knowledge," in which Mr. Milner Gibson held the most prominent place. Born at Trinidad in 1807, he was educated at the Charterhouse, and entered the House of Commons in 1837 as representative of Ipswich. At that time Mr. Milner Gibson professed Conservative opinions, and his change of views lost him his seat. In 1841 he was returned for Manchester, in which representation he was joined by Mr. Bright six years later, and these two gentlemen were the Members of Parliament for the commercial metropolis of the North until the dissolution consequent on the Vote of Censure by the House of Commons upon Sir John Bowring for the hostilities commenced by him against China. Both Mr. Bright and Mr. Milner Gibson then lost their seats; but the latter gentleman found a seat for Ashton-under-Lyne in December of the same year, 1857.

This he retained until 1868, and during seven of these years Mr. Milner Gibson was President of the Board of Trade. For his services in procuring the repeal of the Advertisement, Paper, and Stamp Duties he received a public testimonial in 1861. Since his defeat in 1868, Mr. Milner Gibson has spent a large portion of his time yachting in the Mediterranean.—Our engraving is from a photograph.

#### MR. W. T. MARRIOTT, M.P. FOR BRIGHTON

THE wave of Whig-Radical reaction which swept over England in the spring of 1880 altered a good many things, among others, the political predilections of the electors of London-super-Mare. Brighton had been wooed and won in 1874 by a brace of Conservatives, Messrs. Ashbury and Shute, but in 1880 she took to her heart two Liberals, Messrs. Holland and Marriott, in their place. For some time past, however, Mr. Marriott has been wavering in his allegiance—we will not say to Liberalism—but to Gladstonism. He took up arms against the Caucus; he wrote a pamphlet against Mr. Chamberlain, accusing that gentleman, not only of being the chief engineer of the Caucus system, but also of wearing expensive orchids in his button-hole. Then came the Vote of Censure Debate. Mr. Marriott not only spoke against the Ministerial policy, like some other Liberals, he also voted against it. He had the full courage of his opinions, for he resigned his seat, and applied for the Chiltern Hundreds, resolving that Brighton should decide whether he had done rightly or wrongly. The election caused great excitement. It was hotly alleged—and as strenuously denied—that Birmingham "lams" were imported to disturb the Marriott meetings. The ex-member was opposed by a clever and popular man, Mr. Romer, but Brighton, by a majority of no less than 1,457, signified her approval of Mr. Marriott, and re-elected him. He must now be regarded as a Conservative, and has been elected a member of the Carlton Club.—Our portrait is from a photograph by W. and A. H. Fry, 68, East Street, Brighton.

#### THE BATTLE OF SONTAY

AND  
WESTON'S WALK

See page 256.

#### THE "ALERT" IN DRY DOCK

H.M. SLOOP *Alert*, 1,331 tons, 312-horse-power, which on February 20th was formally handed over to representatives of the United States Government for their proposed Polar expedition, is one of the most substantial timber-built ships in the Royal Navy. Since her return from the Arctic she has had only one commission, on the Australian Station.

The Greeley Expedition was sent out under the auspices of the United States Meteorological Service in 1881, and was established at Lady Franklin Bay, where they were to remain not later than the early summer of 1883. If they had not returned before this, endeavours were to be made by the United States Government to bring them back in that season. For this purpose in 1883 the *Proteus*, a whaler, which had first landed the party at its destination, and a sloop of war were sent. The season was unusually adverse to any efforts to get North. The *Proteus* was crushed in the ice, and the man-of-war failed to get through. The party has thus not been heard of up to this time. The United States Government is now equipping an expedition of three steamers—one, as an advance ship, to leave New York in April, the other two to follow in June. The whaler *Thetis*, bought in Dundee, will be the advance vessel; and the *Bear*, a whaler bought in Newfoundland, and the *Alert* will form the remainder of the expedition. The last vessel, when offers were made for her purchase by the American Government, was generously presented for this service by the British Admiralty. She is specially adapted for the purpose, much money having been spent on her when she was fitted out for the Nares expedition in 1875. Her hull was then planked with teak, both as a protection against the ice and against the rigours of an Arctic winter. She remains practically unaltered, and is undoubtedly the strongest-built vessel afloat.

She was turned over by the Admiralty, and is now fitting at the shipyard of Messrs. Green, of Blackwall, under the personal supervision of Captain Chadwick, the Attaché to the United States Legation, and Captain Goodrich, of the United States Navy.

The sketch by our artist represents the *Alert* in Messrs. Green's middle dry dock, where she has been visited by Admiral Sir Leopold McClintock, Captain Sir George Nares, Sir Allen Young, Mr. Leigh Smith, and other authorities on Arctic explorations.

#### THE AUSTRALIAN FEDERAL CONVENTION

THE members of the Inter-Colonial Conference began their sittings in Sydney on the 28th November, and ended them on the 8th December last. During this interval they did a considerable amount of work. The two most important subjects discussed were Australian Federation and Pacific Annexation. With regard to the former, the Conference adopted the draft of a Bill for the constitution of a Federal Council, and agreed that the Legislatures of the several colonies should petition the Queen for the establishment of such a Federal Council. The annexation of New Guinea was emphatically approved, and it was also resolved that further annexation by foreign Powers of islands in the South Pacific Ocean was undesirable, as they might convert them into penal settlements. Lastly, the Premiers of the different colonies (under the Chairmanship of Mr. Service, of Victoria), were appointed a Standing Committee to assist in forwarding the resolutions of the Convention.

We subjoin brief biographies of the members of the Convention:—The President, the Hon. A. Stuart, was born in Edinburgh in 1825, and arrived in New South Wales in 1851, when he became connected with the Bank of New South Wales. He subsequently joined the mercantile firm of Messrs. R. Towns, of which he is still managing partner. Mr. Stuart entered political life in 1874 as one of the Members for East Sydney, became Colonial Treasurer in 1876, but retired from office the following year. He has been Premier of New South Wales since January, 1883.

The Hon. S. W. Griffith, Q.C., arrived in Sydney when a child, and, after finishing his education at the Sydney University, studied for the law at Brisbane, Queensland, where he was called to the Bar in 1867, and became Member of Parliament in 1872. Two years later he joined the Macalister Administration as Attorney-General, a position he held until 1879, when Sir T. M'Ilwraith assumed the reins of power. Mr. Griffith's party, having a large majority in the Parliament recently elected, took prompt measures to remove their opponents from place and power, and Mr. Griffith became Premier of Queensland, with a large political following.

The Hon. Malcolm Fraser, by whom Western Australia was represented, was for thirteen years a prominent Government officer of New Zealand, where he held the position of District Surveyor, Chief Surveyor, and Crown Lands Commissioner until 1870, when he was appointed Surveyor-General of Western Australia, Member of the Executive Council, &c. He was subsequently elevated to the position of Premier, and his extensive colonial experience has proved of great value to the several Governors he has served under, in what is now the only remaining Crown colony in Australia.

The Hon. William Bede Dalley, Q.C., Attorney-General, is a native of New South Wales, and was born in Sydney, 1831, and

educated for the law. In due course he was called to the Bar in 1858, and, entering Parliament, accepted office as Solicitor-General in the Cowper Administration. Retiring from the political arena, he devoted himself to his profession, and established a brilliant reputation. In 1875 he accepted the office of Attorney-General with the Robertson Ministry, with which he returned in 1877, previously accepting a seat in the Legislative Council. On the formation of the Stuart Ministry, Mr. Dalley resumed the Attorney-Generalship. He bears the reputation of being one of the most fluent orators in the colonies, and his literary ability is of a high order.

The Hon. James A. Garrick, Q.C., Postmaster-General of Queensland, was educated at Sydney, served his articles under Mr. Rillyard, when Crown-Solicitor, and was admitted in 1860, and a year later commenced practice in Brisbane as partner to Sir Charles Lilley, now Chief Justice of Queensland. In 1867 Mr. Garrick entered Parliament, where he became allied to the Liberal party. In 1870 he visited London, entered at the Middle Temple, and, being called to the English Bar in 1873, returned to his adopted colony a year later. After attaining a leading position at the Queensland Bar, he was elected for East Moreton in 1877, joined the Douglas Administration in 1878, as Minister for Lands, but retired into the shade of Opposition in 1879, with his friend, the present Premier. After the last election, when Mr. Garrick was returned, he resigned his electorate to join the new Administration as Postmaster-General, with a seat in the Upper House.

The Hon. G. R. Dibbs has been for many years intimately connected with commercial affairs in Sydney, so that he had acquired a large amount of valuable experience when, after being elected one of the Members of the New South Wales Legislative Assembly at the close of 1882, he was selected as one of the successors of the Parkes Government. As head of the Customs he has made a number of alterations by which merchants have had their business facilitated, and in other departments under his official control improvements of a similar character have been made.

Amongst the few representatives who are comparatively new to Ministerial duties is the Hon. J. W. Downer, Q.C., the present Attorney-General of South Australia, who, according to the legal rules of his colony, has been trained to both branches of his profession. He has now for the first time taken part in an important intercolonial movement, and, without taking any prominent part in the debates, gave evidence of considerable ability.

The Hon. F. Whitaker has been a New Zealand colonist since 1840, and was one of the first members of the Legislative Council of that colony. When, at the disruption of the last Vogel Ministry Mr. Atkinson formed his first Administration, Mr. Whitaker took office as his Attorney-General, in 1876, and from that time to the present they have been associated politically. He held the positions of Postmaster-General, Commissioner of Telegraphs, and Attorney-General, prior to Sir George Grey forming his Administration in 1877. Mr. Whitaker has always had strong views on the Native Land question, has supported his colleagues in subverting the assumed authority of the Kingites, and has been Premier for a brief period.

Possessed of a substantial stake in the Colony of Tasmania, the Hon. N. J. Brown entered political life several years ago as M.L.A. for Cumberland, and in 1878 joined the Fysh Administration as Minister for Lands. When a Coalition Ministry was formed, with Mr. Giblin as its head, he retained his portfolio, and has held office ever since.

The official career of the Hon. J. C. Bray in South Australia dates from 1875, four years after he entered Parliament, when he joined the Blyth Government as Minister of Justice and Education, but remained in office only a short time. He joined Sir H. Ayers' Government in June, 1876, as Attorney-General, and retired with the Ministry at the end of 1877, and now occupies the Premiership at an earlier age than any other Australian has attained that honour.

The Hon. James Service, who now presides over the Government of Victoria, has long occupied a leading position amongst the merchants of Melbourne, where he arrived from Glasgow in 1853, and was elected member for the city in 1857. Mr. Service, who had been in office twice previously, was selected to form a Ministry when the O'Loughlen Government fell, and he sagaciously made such overtures to his former opponent, Mr. Berry, that a strong Coalition Ministry was formed, and promises to stand for some time.

The Hon. Wm. R. Giblin, the present Premier of Tasmania, is a member of a prominent family of Hobart Town, where he has been for many years a leading lawyer and an active participant in political affairs. His official career began early in 1870, when he was appointed Chief Law Officer in the Wilson Ministry, and held that position for two years; and again for a longer period under Mr. Kennerly. He resumed office with the Fysh Administration in 1877, taking also the portfolio of Colonial Treasurer. After the retirement of the Crowther Ministry in 1879 Mr. Giblin assumed the Premiership, and has displayed great ability in the management of public affairs, and is admitted to be the best public speaker in the colony.

The Hon. H. A. Atkinson, the present Premier of New Zealand, has had a lengthened experience of official life in that colony, and rendered honourable service during the last Maori war. Mr. Atkinson became associated with the Weld Government in 1864, as Defence Minister, and retained it for a year. He was Secretary for Lands, with Sir J. Vogel, twice, and with the Pollen Ministry, which intervened. After being continuously in office, from 1873 to 1876, he was entrusted with the formation of a new Government, of which he became Premier, and held his place until October, 1877, when Sir George Grey formed a new Cabinet, which in its turn gave place to that of Mr. Hall, then to that of Mr. Whitaker, who retired from the Premiership in 1882.

The Hon. Graham Berry, Chief Secretary in the Government of Victoria, of which he was for several years the head, was born near London in 1822. The gold fever of 1852 turned his attention to Australia, and he settled in Melbourne towards the close of that year. After engaging in trade, and taking an active part in political movements for some years, he entered Parliament in 1860, as one of the city members, but being unable to obtain a seat in 1865, he turned his attention to journalism, and, becoming proprietor of the *Geelong Advertiser*, in 1866, made it the organ of the Protectionist Party. In 1868 he was returned for Geelong, became Colonial Treasurer for a brief period in 1870, resumed that office a year later, and retired with his colleagues in 1872. When Mr. Service resigned in 1875 Mr. Berry was deputed to form the succeeding Administration, but, being defeated upon his obnoxious land-tax policy, resigned soon after. He was again at the head of affairs in 1877, and during the following year went to London officially to try and induce the Imperial Government to interfere in the dead-lock which had taken place between the two Houses of Parliament. After five years' retention of office he was again defeated, and gave place to Sir B. O'Loughlen, who in his turn was succeeded by Mr. Service, the present Premier.

The Hon. G. B. Kerferd has also been a Victorian colonist since 1852, and for some years was one of the most prominent public men in Beechworth, where he occupied the position of Mayor for several years, was returned to the Legislature in 1864, and, with the exception of a brief interval, has held a seat since that time in the Assembly. He was called to the Bar in 1867, became Minister of Works for a few months, in 1867, was Attorney-General under Mr. Francis, in 1874, and formed a new Ministry the same year, with Mr. Service as his Treasurer.



Sir G. W. Des Vœux, K.C.M.G., Governor of Fiji, was born in 1834, educated at the Charterhouse and at Balliol College, Oxford, called to the Bar of Upper Canada in 1861, appointed Chief Magistrate of British Guiana in 1863, was Administrator of the Government of St. Lucia in 1869, Acting Governor of Trinidad in 1877, was from thence transferred to Fiji in 1878, when he became Acting Governor, and succeeded Sir Arthur Gordon as Governor of that Colony, and High Commissioner of the Western Pacific in 1880. The Knighthood connected with the Order of Michael and George was conferred upon Governor Des Vœux during the present year.

#### "MR. BLUNDERBORE IN SOCIETY"

WE do not know whether M. Adrien Marie, to whose facile pencil this page of engravings is due, has ever met Mr. Blunderbore in the flesh while sojourning on this side of the Channel, or whether he has unconsciously reproduced a Gallic type in an English dress, or whether he has altogether evolved him, like the German's dromedary, out of his moral consciousness. To us it seems there is a compound of *gaucherie* and impudence about Mr. Blunderbore which is rarely seen among Anglo-Saxons. An Englishman who was so awkward as to upset dishes and trample on ladies' dresses would be overwhelmed with confusion; whereas M. Marie's hero comes up smiling and imperturbable after every disaster. In fact, he reminds us of a once-famous character in one of Thackeray's Christmas books, "Mrs. Perkins' Ball." We refer to The Mulligan, and he, be it remembered, was no Saxon, but a Celt of the Celts.

#### "DOROTHY FORSTER"

A NEW STORY, by Walter Besant, illustrated by Charles Green, is continued on page 261.

#### GENERAL GORDON

See pp. 265 et seqq.



ON TUESDAY LORD TENNYSON took his seat in the House of Peers.

ADDRESSING THE CHelsea CONSERVATIVES, on Wednesday, Lord Salisbury said that his programme could be summed up in the four words, "Appeal to the People." The people should be consulted before the last stage of the reform question was reached. The electors of Chelsea ought to feel strongly on the subject of redistribution, since the Government proposed to take the new seats required by Scotland, which had too few, not from Ireland, which had too many, but from their part of England. The verdict of the constituencies, however, would be given, not on reform, but on its fulfilment by the Government of the promises which brought it into power. The Government of Lord Beaconsfield had been made responsible for the depression of trade. The policy of the present Government towards the shipping interest had thrown into confusion a great industry, the inaction of which must depress all other industries. Every attack made on property, cheered by Radical agitators, fell in the long run on the working men, whose means of livelihood it destroyed. Condemning the vacillation of the Government in Egypt, Lord Salisbury described its occasional vigour as the effect of propulsion from behind; but to move thus was the function of a football, not of a Government. Mr. Gladstone had defined his Egyptian policy in the words, "Rescue and Retire;" but he had failed to rescue, and would not be permitted to retire. The scheme of giving up Khartoum could not answer, nor would Mr. Gladstone be permitted to maintain a revived slave trade on the banks of the Blue and White Nile.

AT A MEETING OF THE RATEPAYERS OF St. George's, Hanover Square, on Wednesday, Mr. W. H. Smith supported a resolution condemning the expenditure of the London School Board. The increase of rates in the metropolis pressed very hardly on the poor by increasing the cost of their dwellings, and thus crowding them together. Much of the education given at the expense of the ratepayers was quite unsuitable for those who have to fight the battle of life. Mr. Smith adduced statistics to show that the average cost of School-Board education was much higher in London than in the chief towns of the kingdom.

AFTER CONSIDERING, on Wednesday, a suggestion of the Premier's to confer with him and the President of the Board of Trade on the Shipping Bill, the representatives of the ship-owners decided to decline meeting Mr. Chamberlain, except before a Select Committee of the House of Commons, when the serious charges brought by him against them could be fully investigated.

LORD SHAFTESBURY AND MR. OWEN, Permanent Secretary to the Local Government Board, have been the first witnesses examined by the Royal Commission on the Housing of the Working Classes, the meetings of which, it has been decided, are to be private.

ASKED BY A CORRESPONDENT to oppose the Franchise Bill in the House of Peers, Lord Sherbrooke replied that he cannot undertake to make any more speeches on Reform, and can only hope that things may turn out better than he thinks they will.

THE PRINCIPLE OF PROPORTIONAL REPRESENTATION has now received the adhesion of 150 Members of the House of Commons. As it is anticipated that without some provision for the due representation of minorities the establishment of Household Suffrage in Ireland will practically disfranchise the Irish Protestants, the adhesions include many of the Irish Conservative and Liberal Irish Members, but none of Mr. Parnell's followers.

THERE IS TO BE A CONTEST for the seat at Huntingdon, vacant through the elevation of Viscount Hinchinbrook to the Peerage, as successor to his father, the late Earl of Sandwich. He had represented the borough in the Conservative interest since 1876. Sir Robert Peel is the Conservative, and Mr. Charles Veasey the Liberal candidate.

DECLINING, ON SEVERAL GROUNDS, to become a candidate for the representation of Leicester, Mr. Herbert Spencer follows up his protest in the *Contemporary Review* against what he considers to be over-legislation by saying that on political matters his views are widely divergent from those of all parties at present existing. What he holds to be the chief business of legislation, an administration of justice securing to each person with certainty and without cost the maintenance of his equitable claims, has little attention paid to it, while attention is absorbed in doing things which he holds should not be done at all.

IN AN ADDRESS to the electors of Leicester, Mr. George Jacob Holyoake intimates that if returned to the House of Commons he will not take an oath which has no corresponding belief in his mind, and which it is demoralising to take as a mere formality.

AT THE MEETING this week of the Royal Geographical Society, Mr. Malcolm Lupton read an interesting paper descriptive of the Bahr Gazette province of the Soudan, which he had compiled from the letters of its Governor, his brother, Lupton Bey. The province is one of the largest in the Soudan, and could grow cotton

enough for the whole world. Lupton Bey calculated that for the current year he would hand over to the Egyptian Government a surplus revenue of 60,000*l.* With his little Egyptian force he had defeated the rebels in numerous engagements, and his province was tolerably tranquil; but this was written before he had heard of the fate of Hicks Pasha, the effect of the news of which on the tribes under his jurisdiction will, it was remarked by Lord Aberdare, who presided, be awaited with anxiety.

PROPOSING A VOTE OF THANKS to Mr. Frederic Harrison for his lecture on "Historic London" at the London Institution, Mr. Shaw-Lefevre said that, before he ceased to be First Commissioner of Works, he should like to remove the buildings from the south side of Westminster Abbey, and open up a view of the Chapter House.

IN CONGREGATION at Oxford on Tuesday, an attempt was made to reverse the previous decision to admit women under certain conditions to some of the University examinations. That decision was sustained by 107 to 42 votes.

THE TITLE OF THE ROYAL NATIONAL MINERS' LIFE-SAVING INSTITUTION, now in course of formation, explains its general object. Among its vice-presidents are several Members of both Houses of Parliament. It is computed that half a million of workers are employed in our coal mines, and that 2,500 lives are lost in them yearly.

THE MANCHESTER CHAMBER OF COMMERCE is organising a movement hostile to the ratification of the Congo Treaty recently negotiated by the British and Portuguese Governments, and a meeting of Liverpool merchants interested in the African trade resolved to petition against its ratification.

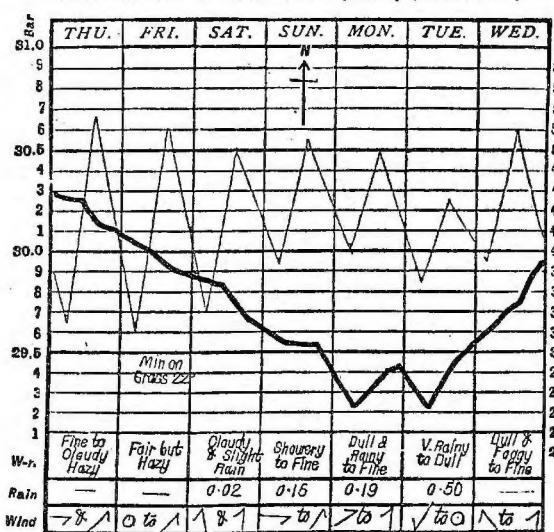
THE BRITISH AND FOREIGN ANTI-SLAVERY SOCIETY have addressed to Lord Granville a protest against the appointment of the much talked-of Zebehr Pasha to the Governorship of Khartoum.

ACCORDING TO THE REPORT of the Land Commissioners for 1883, the expenditure for land improvements on settled estates alone has during the last decade averaged 380,000*l.* a year.

IN THE OBITUARY OF THE WEEK we note the death of Admiral Dacres, Governor of Greenwich Hospital, at the age of eighty; of Admiral Sidney Grenfell, who was actively engaged nearly fifty years ago in the suppression of the slave trade on the West Coast of Africa, and served in the China War of 1857-8; of Mr. William Morley, at the advanced age of ninety-six, the founder of the wholesale Manchester trade in the City of London, where, nearly sixty years ago, he established the first warehouse of the kind; of William Newlands, King of the Orkney Gipsies, in his 102nd year; of Mrs. H. C. Angell, well known as a painter of flowers and birds, at the age of thirty-seven; of Baroness de Rothschild; of Mr. George Buckland, the popular lecturer and entertainer, at the age of sixty-six, for whose benefit his friends had planned an excellent entertainment at St. George's Hall, which is now to be given on the 26th inst. for the benefit of his widow; and of Mr. William Blanchard Jerrold, the active journalist and author, in his fifty-ninth year. The son of Douglas Jerrold, he early adopted literature as a profession, and succeeded his father in the editorship of *Lloyd's Weekly News*, which he held until his own death. Of his numerous and varied works the most noticeable is his Biography of Napoleon III., written, it was understood, from exclusive sources of information. When he died he was engaged on a life of his friend Gustave Doré.

#### WEATHER CHART FOR THE WEEK

FROM MARCH 6 TO MARCH 12, 1884 (INCLUSIVE).



EXPLANATION.—The thick line shows the variations in the height of the barometer during the past week ending Wednesday midnight. The fine line shows the shade temperature for the same interval, and gives the maximum and minimum readings for each day, with the (approximate) time at which they occurred. The information is furnished to us by the Meteorological Office.

REMARKS.—The weather over our islands during the greater part of the past week has been in an unsettled condition generally. On Thursday (6th inst.) a large anti-cyclone lay over England and France, while an extensive area of low pressure existed off our north-western coasts. Strong southerly winds and rainy weather prevailed over Ireland, while light south-westerly breezes or calms and dull skies were experienced elsewhere. Throughout the remainder of the week the weather was influenced by a series of small and shallow depressions, which passed across different parts of the country in a north-easterly direction, and produced frequent showers of rain, sleet, or snow. The prevailing winds over England were mostly from the south-westward and westward, and light in force; over Ireland they were from the south-westward and southward, and strong; while over Scotland, although chiefly moderate, severe southerly gales were felt on one occasion. The two well-marked dips shown in the barometer curve on Monday and Tuesday (10th and 11th inst.) were caused respectively by a subsidiary disturbance, which passed across northern England, and a small, but well-formed, depression, which advanced to our extreme south-eastern coasts from the south-westward. The barometer was highest (30.29 inches) on Thursday (6th inst.); lowest (29.21 inches) on Monday (10th inst.); range, 1.08 inch. Temperature was highest (53°) on Thursday (6th inst.); lowest (32°) on Friday (7th inst.); range, 21°. Rain fell on four days. Total amount, 0.86 inch. Greatest fall on any one day, 0.50 inch, on Tuesday (11th inst.).

LONDON MORTALITY increased last week, and 1,639 deaths were registered, against 1,483 during the previous seven days, a rise of 156, but being 180 below the average, and at the rate of 21.3 per 1,000. These deaths included 1 from small-pox (a fall of 7), 46 from measles (a rise of 14), 27 from scarlet fever (an increase of 5), 12 from diphtheria (the same as last week), 92 from whooping-cough (a rise of 18), 25 from typhoid fever (an increase of 12), 1 from different forms of fever (a decline of 1), 11 from diarrhoea and dysentery, and 384 from diseases of the respiratory organs. Different forms of violence caused 52 deaths; 44 were the result of accident or negligence, among which were 16 from fractures and contusions, 4 from burns and scalds, 7 from drowning, and 12 of infants under one year of age from suffocation. There were 2,754 births registered against 2,751 during the previous week, being 100 above the average. The mean temperature of the air was 41.2 deg., and 0.7 deg. above the average.



OUR OLD FRIEND "JUMBO" comes to England next November with his American wife, "Hebe." "Jumbo" is stated to be perfectly healthy, docile, and happy, and to have increased a ton in weight since leaving Europe.

THE COMING SEASON IN THE POLAR REGIONS is expected to be highly favourable for exploration. The ice is coming down from the Arctic Seas much earlier than usual, and thus there will be more chance of open water in the beginning of the season, and less danger from ice-pack.

THE ENGLISH EDITION of "The Life and Letters of the Princess Alice" will be published by Mr. Murray immediately after Easter. The work contains the Princess's correspondence from the period of her marriage in 1862 down to the time of her death, and the letters to the Queen are taken from the originals, while the Princess Christian has translated and edited the German portion of the volume.

A DISTINGUISHED "CRAZY QUILT" has been made by an industrious Transatlantic dandy of St. Joseph, Missouri. "Crazy work" is a kind of patchwork made of irregular sized bits of material, and this quilt is composed of pieces from the dresses of celebrated women, Mrs. Langtry, Sarah Bernhardt, Ellen Terry, and the wife of ex-President Grant being among the contributors.

AMERICAN WEDDING PRESENTS seem rather odd sometimes. Lately the bridesmaids gave the bridegroom a large golden latch-key, ornamented with his monogram in jewels; while the groomsmen presented the bride with a miniature silver broom with a handle of precious stones. A more sensible fashion was set by a bride at another wedding, who made her six bridesmaids' dresses, and trimmed their hats.

A CURIOUS EXPERIMENT WITH THE PHONOGRAPH is to be made by a German scientist, who will shortly visit the Congo and the interior of Africa. Dr. Zintgraff will attempt to fix the speech and melodies of hitherto unknown tribes with the phonograph, and will then send the plates to Berlin, where they will be unrolled by an exactly similar apparatus, thus re-emitting the sounds originally received.

THE FLORAL "BUTTON-HOLES" worn by Parisian dandies must be chosen according to a regular code of etiquette, if the wearer has any pretension to *poschutt*—the latest term for *chic*. Neapolitan violets are to be sported in the morning, mimosa for the afternoon, hyacinths and primroses are admissible for dinner, while for balls, receptions, &c., any hothouse flower may be worn, particularly gardenias, Cape heath, roses, or white lilac.

THE FIRST ITALIAN DERBY is to be run at Rome next month, at King Humbert's special suggestion. The first prize is 960*l.* Just now the Romans seem bent on copying English institutions, for the Government propose to establish an Industrial and Artistic Museum on the South Kensington model, while the Cattle Show is to be held next month, also on the English plan. Moreover King Humbert has declared he takes great interest in our forthcoming Hygienic Exhibition.

THE EVENING OPENING OF THE BRITISH MUSEUM is not likely to take place for some time to come, as the Government has refused to provide funds for lighting the building by electricity. Meanwhile, Lord Shaftesbury will again bring the subject forward in Parliament, proposing the opening of the British Museum and the National Gallery three evenings a week as an amendment to Lord Thurlow's resolution in favour of the Sunday opening of Museums and Galleries, set down for the 21st inst.

A MONKEY SIGNALMAN manages the railway traffic at Uitenhage, South Africa, so we learn from *The Colonies*. The human signalman belonging to the post lost both his legs in a recent railway train, and so has trained a baboon to discharge his duties. Jacko pushes his master about on a trolley, and under his directions works the lever to set the signals, with a most ludicrous imitation of humanity. He puts down the lever, looks round to see that the correct signal is up, and then gravely watches the approaching train, his master being at hand meanwhile to correct any mistake.

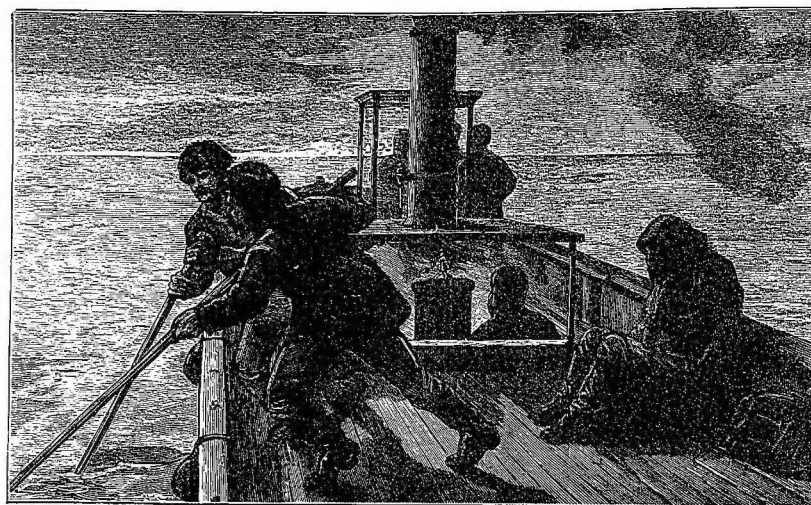
THE NATIONAL PORTRAIT GALLERY has now hung a portrait of the Queen in the long gallery on the ground-floor, close to Winterhalter's likeness of the Prince Consort. The picture is a water-colour copy by Lady Abercromby, from Herr Angeli's life-size likeness of Her Majesty, taken at Windsor in 1875, and represents the Queen standing, facing the spectator, and wearing a black satin dress, a plain white cap, and veil. Talking of Royalty and Art, the first tapestry panel entirely worked by Englishmen has just been finished at the Royal Tapestry Works, Windsor, and has been bought by the Queen. It is in old Arras style, and represents Balmoral Castle.

A PICTURE OF THE EX-EMPRESS EUGENIE'S FLIGHT FROM PARIS IN 1870, painted by M. Henri Dupray, will be one of the features of the coming Paris Salon. The work will show the Empress starting from Dr. Evans's house, accompanied by her lady in waiting, Madame de Breton, and a gentleman. It has been painted especially for Dr. Evans. Although the pictures for the annual Exhibition are now being sent in, little is known of more important works, and the only other contribution much discussed at present is M. Millet's statue of Georges Sand, to be erected at the authoress's house at La Châtre. The present Exhibition of Lady Artists' Works at the Palais de l'Industrie is now matched in Berlin by a feminine display at the Kunst-Akademie, but the German pencils have not been so happy, most of the 284 works being of very moderate quality.

THE LATE TERRIBLE FLOODS IN THE UNITED STATES are being traced by competent authorities to the wilful destruction of forest lands for many years past. Landowners have been perpetually warned that, if they destroyed the forests at the head-waters of the rivers, sudden thaws would bring disastrous floods, and, as the timber destruction has steadily gone on, the winter floods have grown more severe year by year, while in summer the water-supply has been seriously affected. At last, however, the Government is taking the matter in hand. Trees are being planted in many of the denuded districts, and the State is being petitioned to purchase the whole of the wooded country lying at the source of the Hudson, and including the Adirondack Mountains, as it is pointed out that de-forestation here would mean the diminution of the Hudson River and much injury to navigation.

CREMATION SEEMS STEADILY winning its way in favour in various countries. In England itself the Cremation Society has lately reminded us that it possesses all the necessary appliances for burning our dead at home, and that the process has now been pronounced legal. In America cultivated Boston has just established a New England Cremation Society, whose members on subscribing to an incineration fund "shall be entitled to cremation at the expense of the society as soon as the society has the necessary appliances"—a somewhat dubiously-expressed rule, which has caused much amusement. While the Prussian authorities discountenance the practice, the German people in general are very anxious for its introduction, and both Berlin and Hamburg possess influential branch cremation societies. Last year forty-six cremations took place at Gotha, the average cost being 22*l.* 10*s.* There is a special German cremation journal—*Die Flamme*.

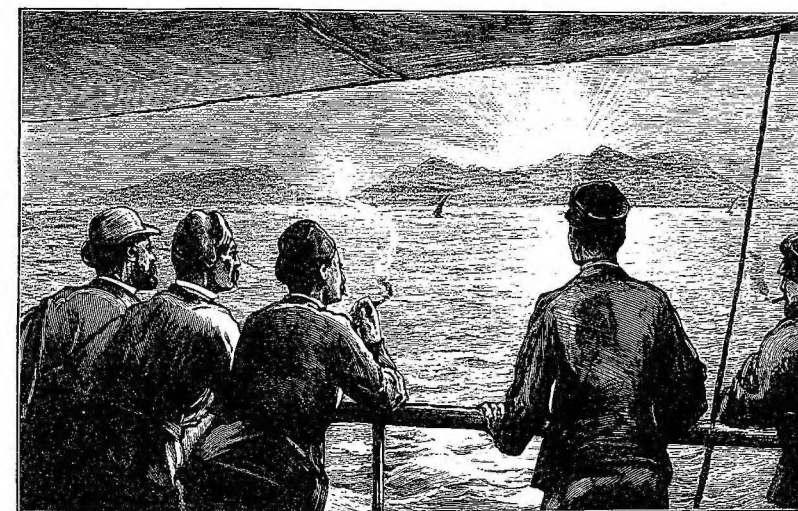




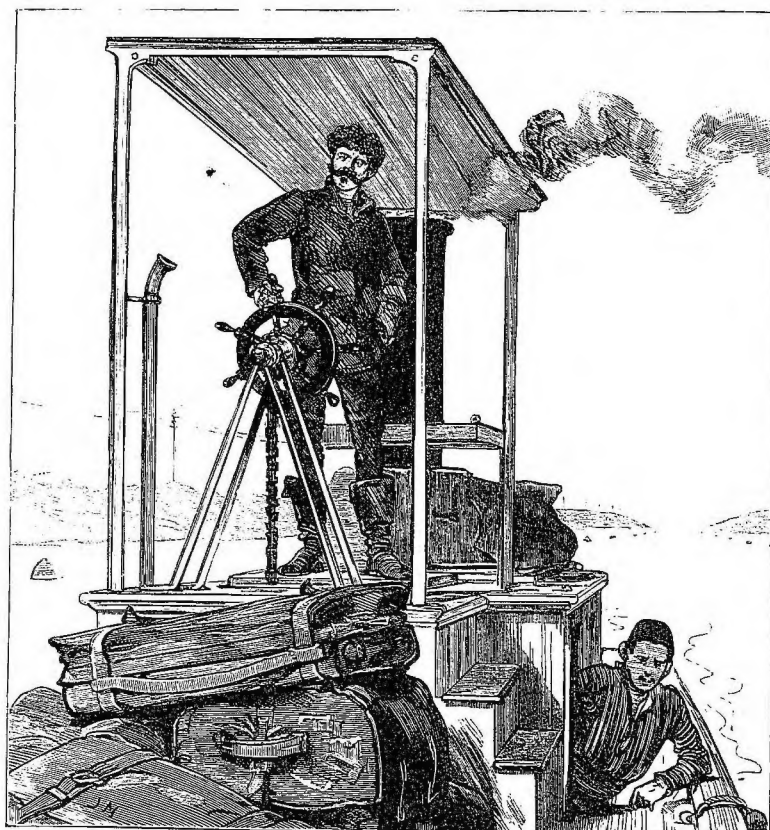
AGROUND IN LAKE TIMSAH, SUEZ CANAL



IN THE RED SEA



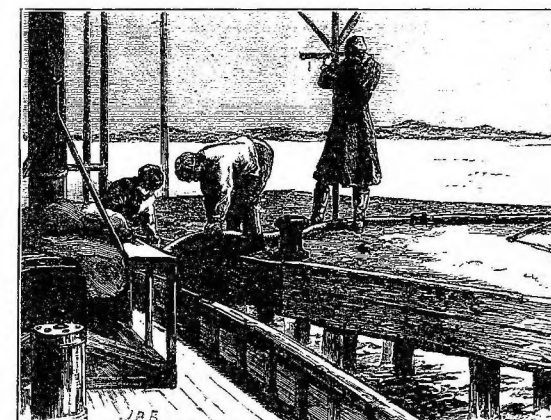
OUR FIRST VIEW OF THE SOUDAN FROM THE TRANSPORT "NORTHUMBRIA"



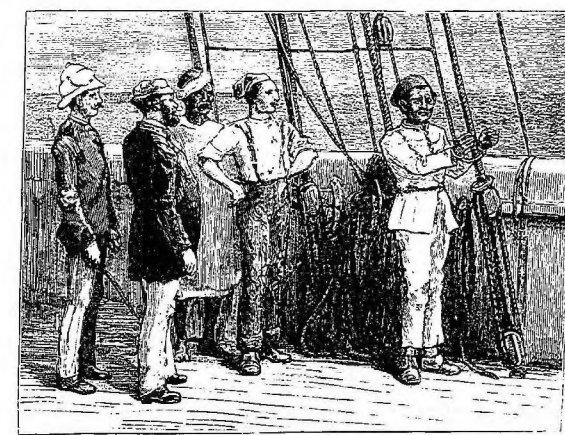
OUR MAN AT THE WHEEL IN THE SUEZ CANAL



A NIGHT IN THE SUEZ CANAL—WE DRINK CONFUSION TO THE MAHDI



A WATER STATION AT KABRIT, SUEZ CANAL



PUNISHMENT FOR INSUBORDINATION ON BOARD THE TRANSPORT "NORTHUMBRIA"

THE REBELLION IN THE SOUDAN—BRITISH OFFICERS EN ROUTE FOR EL TEB  
FROM SKETCHES BY OUR SPECIAL ARTIST, MR. F. VILLIERS





ANOTHER British success can be chronicled in EGYPT. On Thursday a decisive battle was fought before Osman Digma's position, and the enemy utterly routed. To resume our chronicle of the campaign. Osman Digma having shown himself in no way discouraged by the British victory at Teb, replied to Admiral Hewett's summons to surrender by a letter couched in the most fanatical language, and filled with numerous quotations from the Koran against infidels. "Pray to God and be converted," he wrote. "There is nothing between us but the sword, especially as the Mahdi has come to kill you and destroy you unless God wishes you to Islam. . . . We will not leave your heads unless you become Mussulmans and listen to the Prophet and laws of God." This defiant document was signed by sixteen sheikhs, and on its receipt it was felt that an advance in force must be made at once upon the obdurate chieftain, whose camp lay in the Valley of Tamanhid, about seventeen miles from Suakim. The strength of his force was unknown, it being variously estimated by spies at from 2,000 to 10,000, but it was confidently stated that he had two guns and 1,000 Remingtons. A cavalry reconnaissance was made on Sunday to choose a good camping ground for the troops outside Suakim, and a site known as Samanis was selected near Baker Pasha's zeriba—that enclosure being too small for the purpose. Samanis is about half way to Tamanhid, being eight miles from Suakim. Unfortunately no water was procurable there, so that it was decided not to send the cavalry until the moment of action. On Monday the Black Watch marched out to Samanis, and formed an entrenched camp as a base for operations and a store place for water and provisions. The transport of stores was conducted by camels and Egyptian drivers, who observed their usual "discretion" at the sight of a body of the enemy, and, leaving their charges, bolted back to Suakim. A small force of mounted infantry were sent next morning against the rebels, who promptly disappeared. On Tuesday evening also the entire infantry force, with General Graham and his staff, advanced—the force being the same as at El Teb, with the addition of 200 marines and a naval mule battery, the troops thoroughly appreciating the march in the cool of the evening. The weather has been exceedingly hot during the past few days, and several of the Black Watch were down with sunstroke. All the weaklings and invalids were carefully weeded out from the ranks before leaving Suakim, and relegated to garrison duty in that town, where the Egyptian soldiers continue to loaf aimlessly about.

On Wednesday the cavalry followed, and the force advanced another stage to Tamanhid, a distance of nine miles, and one mile from the rebel camp, and encamped there for the night, intending to move forward for the final attack on Osman Digma's position on Thursday morning. The road to Tamanhid is thickly studded with brush bushes, which afford great facilities for ambush, and is broken by hillocks and nullahs. Thus General Graham was unable to adopt the plan of advancing in one large square, but moved forward in two small squares, with the artillery in the centre. The march was admirably performed by our men—the cavalry working as scouts, and clearing the ground in advance. In about three hours the first hill was reached, and then General Graham led his force to a rising ground, where they bivouacked for the night. The cavalry, however, one squadron excepted, was sent back to the zeriba on account of want of water. The enemy were now fairly in sight, and had already fired briskly upon the scouts. Indeed, firing was kept up on the camp throughout Wednesday night, but our troops did not reply. At eight on Thursday morning, however, fighting commenced in real earnest, the enemy were completely routed from their rifle-pits and entrenchments, and Osman Digma's camp taken after nearly four hours' hard fighting. Our loss amounted to over 70 killed and 100 wounded. Much speculation is abroad regarding the future movements of the troops, and it is thought that a small cavalry force will be despatched to Berber to keep open the road from Suakim, as General Gordon recommends.

General Gordon, indeed, does not seem to be prospering so well this week, and is manifestly anxious to have a few British troops at hand to back his peaceable arguments. Not only does he want "two squadrons and a regiment" at Berber; but, in accordance with his advice, the Sussex regiment is to be sent to Assiout to support Colonel Duncan's Egyptians. He strongly recommends the appointment of Zebehr Pasha as Governor of Khartoum, but that ex-slave holder declines to go as long as Gordon Pasha remains in the Sudan, for fear of being held responsible for his safety. At Cairo there has been another Ministerial resignation—that of Sabet Pasha, Minister of the Interior, a thorough obstructionist, whose functions have been assumed for the nonce by the ubiquitous Nubar. The troops wounded at El Teb have arrived at Suez from Suakim—seven officers and 141 men, amongst whom there are still a number of severe cases.

In FRANCE, also, the chief interest of the hour lies in military operations, the move forward upon Bacinh of her expedition in Tonquin having now definitely begun on the 7th inst. General Millot had somewhat disconcerted the Black Flags by not advancing from Hanoi along the direct road, which they had duly prepared for his reception by building redoubts and digging entrenchments. With true "Barbarian" perversity he is operating instead with two divisions—himself moving along the Canal of the Rapids, and General Négrier advancing from Haidzuong to a certain rendezvous on the canal. After clearing the river of the barriers which the enemy had placed there, and thus enabling the gunboats to ascend the stream, General Millot will invest Bacinh from the south and east, while General Négrier cuts off the retreat of the garrison. The defending force is stated to consist of 11,000 Annamese and 10,000 Chinese, only half-armed with bad rifles; their artillery also being of little value.

Turning to FRANCE proper, some little excitement has been roused by the discovery of a plot to assassinate the Comte de Paris. A box was handed into the Lyons Railway Station, addressed to the Count at his house in the Rue de Varennes, Paris. The railway clerk, suspecting something wrong, had the box carefully opened, and it was found to contain a bomb surrounded by small pieces of iron, and so connected with fulminating cotton that an explosion should occur on the box being opened carelessly. The box professed to contain silks and hardware. There is a Radical crusade against the Orleanist Princes just now; the Radical journals are full of invective against the Princes, and teem with stories of their intrigues against the Republic, while the Government, through M. Schnerbs, the Minister of the Interior, has issued a circular to the Prefects asking for information about the movements of the party since the Comte de Chambord's death, and whether any new organisations are being formed. In this the Comte de Paris is significantly styled the "New Pretender." In the Chamber the debates have mainly turned upon the new Primary Education Bill. M. Paul Bert has been defeated in a proposal to increase the lay teachers' stipends, for which the Government declared they had no funds, and declined to entertain M. Bert's suggestion for an enhanced Land Tax. M. Bert has taken his exclusion from the Ministry greatly to heart, and loses no opportunity of meeting their measures

with objections and amendments. Another political item of more interest is the publication of a note to the British Government with regard to the Australian complaints of the continual escape of French criminals from New Caledonia. It acknowledges that it is the duty of the convict authorities to keep a strict watch over their charges, and adds that habitual offenders will be also transported to the Marquesas Islands and other French penal settlements, and that severe punishments will be inflicted upon all who attempt evasion. Moreover, replying to the Australian complaint that the extradition of escaped convicts is not demanded, it states that the French authorities have been instructed to take all necessary measures to that effect.

In PARIS there has been a duel between M. Edmond Lepelletier, the editor of the *Reveil*, and M. Paul Viardot, the violinist. Shots were first interchanged without any result, and, on fresh arms being provided, M. Lepelletier fired, and wounded M. Viardot in the chest. The latter was about to leave the ground, when M. Lepelletier cried, "Fire, sir!" M. Viardot fired, and wounded his adversary in the thigh.—There have been two dramatic novelties—a five-act drama, *Claude Gueux*, by M. Gadot-Rollo, at the Beaumarchais, and a three-act comic opera at the Chateau d'Eau, entitled *Roman d'un jour*, to which M. Eugène Anthoine has supplied the music, and M. Michel Masson, jun., and Armand Lafrique the libretto.—On Thursday took place the long-expected meeting of the Suez Canal Shareholders, to consider the arrangements with the British shipowners. M. De Lesseps' report on the arrangement was adopted by 843 votes against 761. The question of raising the number of directors, however, was left unsettled.

From RUSSIA comes a more detailed account of the submission of Merv, from which it appears that the good Mervians were not quite so anxious for the protection of the White Czar as we were given to understand at first. In December a small Russian force, despatched for the purpose of punishing certain Tekkè Turcomans who had been raiding on the Persian frontier, halted on the Merv frontier, and an officer, Captain Abkhanoff—who, by the way, visited the town in disguise in 1882—rode on to Merv with twenty-five Cossacks. On being received by the Khan he recommended him to petition with the other chiefs for Russian protection. As a condition of such a privilege, however, he laid down that slavery must be abolished, all slaves released, and the booty which had been taken from the Persians must be restored. The Khan, thinking that the Russian detachment was the advance guard of an army, adopted the proffered advice, and the now historic deputation to Ashkhabad, on February 12th, was the result. Meanwhile the Russians are losing no time in utilising their new acquisition. Prince Dondoukoff Korsakoff, the Governor of the Caucasus, intends to visit Merv; a new frontier line between Russian, Persian, and Afghan territory is being drawn up. By this the Amou Daria district is to be separated from the province of Turkestan, and included in the Trans-Caspian government. This arrangement will place the direction of Khivan affairs under General Komaroff at Ashkhabad, and render any interference by the new Governor-General at Tashkend impossible. At home Russia is in as an uneasy condition as ever. Large rewards are being offered for the murderer of Colonel Sudeikin, whose assassination has rendered the recruiting for the police force yet more difficult.

GERMANY and the UNITED STATES are still waging bitter warfare respecting the Lasker incident. The *North German Gazette* has made a violent attack on Mr. Sargent, the United States Minister, in answer to the American complaint that Prince Bismarck had communicated through the German Minister at Washington instead of through Mr. Sargent. Mr. Sargent is reproached with having by his "conduct in Berlin and his journalistic activity (referring to his despatch on the pig-flesh question published in a New York paper) across the Atlantic" taken up a singular attitude towards the German Government, which compelled Prince Bismarck to adopt the line he pursued. In the United States the conduct of the Chancellor has excited great indignation. The President has communicated to Congress the whole of the correspondence, and one of the New York members has proposed a resolution expressing the "surprise and regret of the House that it should be even temporarily within the power of a single too-powerful subject to interfere with such a simple, natural, and spontaneous expression of kindly feeling between two great nations, and thus to detract from the position and prestige of the Crown on the one hand, and from the rights of the mandatories of the people on the other." The motion concludes with a reiteration of its sincere regret at the death of Dr. Edward Lasker. In Germany also the matter was brought before the Reichstag almost immediately on its opening last week by a Liberal Deputy, who, however, was at once severely reproved by the President for being "out of order." Thereupon a somewhat uproarious scene ensued, heightened by a member pointing to the German flag in the Hall which had been presented to the House by German Americans. The Emperor's speech on the opening of the Reichstag presented no features of outside interest—the relations of Germany with all the world being announced as duly cordial. The chief home measure is the Accident Insurance Bill.

Of MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS we hear from TURKEY that the Sultan is feeling somewhat anxious about England encroaching upon his Suzerainty in Egypt, and talks about issuing a Circular to the Powers.—In ITALY Cardinal Di Pietro, Doyen of the Jesuit College, died last week.—In AUSTRIA there have been some anti-Jewish outrages at Neu Stettin, owing to the acquittal of some Jews on the charge of setting fire to the synagogue.—In NORWAY the King has decided that, in accordance with the judgment of the Rigsret, Mr. Selmer should resign his post as Cabinet Minister. At the same time, in a letter to Mr. Selmer, the King expresses his appreciation of his services, and confers upon him the Order of the Seraphim.—In INDIA the Calcutta Exhibition was closed on Monday by the Viceroy. There have been 817,000 paying visitors, and some 150,000 free admissions.—There is an insurrection in BURMA, owing to the native Shans, a practically independent hill tribe in the north, having poured down into the low country, and surrounded the important port of Bhamo, on the Upper Irrawady.—From South America news comes from PANAMA that yellow fever has appeared there, and that Mr. Locker, a missionary, has died of the disease. The Canal works are progressing favourably, and numbers of labourers are arriving from Jamaica.—In PERU the Assembly has approved the treaty with Chili.—In COLOMBIA the British Government have claimed compensation for outrages on British subjects.



THE QUEEN and Princess Beatrice spent a day with the Empress Eugénie at Farnborough at the end of last week, returning to Windsor in the evening. On Saturday afternoon Her Majesty and the Princess visited Clewer Churchyard, where they placed memorial wreaths on the graves of the late Sir T. M. Biddulph, General Lord Roakey, and Mr. Wellesley. Later the Princess Louise and the Marquis of Lorne arrived on a visit, and in the

evening the Queen gave a dinner-party. Next morning Her Majesty the Princesses, and Lord Lorne attended Divine Service in the private chapel, where the Rev. Harry Jones preached. The Princess Louise and Lord Lorne left on Monday-morning, and Princess Beatrice with her nieces, Princesses Victoria and Louise of Schleswig-Holstein, came up to town to attend the Prince and Princess of Wales's ball. They stayed the night at Buckingham Palace. Princess Frederica of Hanover, however, stayed with the Queen, leaving on Tuesday afternoon. Her Majesty has not felt equal to the fatigue of holding Drawing Rooms, and the Princess of Wales accordingly was to represent the Queen yesterday (Friday) at the first Drawing Room of the season, and will also act in Her Majesty's stead at the second, on Thursday next. The Queen will not stay in town before leaving for Germany on the 7th prox.

The Prince of Wales on Saturday went to the Grand Military Steeplechases at Sandown Park, and in the evening dined with the Attorney-General. Next morning the Prince and Princess, with their daughters, attended Divine Service. Monday being the Prince and Princess's twenty-first wedding-day, they gave a children's ball in the evening, when the Princess Louise and Lord Lorne, Princess Beatrice and the young Princesses of Schleswig-Holstein, the Duchess of Edinburgh and her little son, and the Duke of Cambridge were also present. On Tuesday the Prince attended the first meeting of the Royal Commission on the Dwelling-Places of the Poor, and presided at a meeting of the General Committee of the Hyde Park Corner Improvements: while in the evening he accompanied the Princess to the Vaudeville Theatre. The Prince and Princess on Wednesday night were present at the Tableaux at Princes' Hall in aid of the Building Fund of the Soho Home and Club for Working Girls. They will open the new building of the Westminster Training School and Home for Nurses next Wednesday; and, after Easter, the Princess will inaugurate Miss Wardell's Convalescent Home for Scarlet Fever Patients; while the Prince intends to lay the foundation-stone of the central tower of Peterborough Cathedral during the first week in May.



ON THE FIRST OF MAY, and in Lincoln Cathedral, the Archbishop of Canterbury, assisted by the Bishops of Lincoln and Lichfield, is to consecrate Dr. Ridding Bishop of Southwell.

THE BISHOP OF ST. DAVID'S is to preach the Spital Sermon on Easter Tuesday.

BETWEEN 600 AND 700 FRIENDS of the City and Central Poor Districts' Auxiliary to the London City Mission attended, on Tuesday, a social gathering in the Egyptian Hall, to which they were invited by the Lord Mayor, who presided. The object of the Auxiliary is to extend missionary operations in "Outcast" London; and resolutions in favour of it were passed. Every missionary employed by the parent Society costs 100*l.* a year, and the Auxiliary aims at raising 55*l.* of this for each missionary labouring in the City and the poor parishes adjacent to it.

AT THE ANNUAL MEETING of the CHURCH ASSOCIATION, last week, a resolution was passed expressive of alarm at what it spoke of as the fact of toleration accorded by Bishops to practices discarded at the Reformation, and condemned by the law of the Church of England.

AMONG THE COMPLAINTS formulated respecting the proposed new Service Franchise is, that it does not confer the suffrage on curates who reside in Clergy Houses with incumbents.

THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE of the Liberation Society have passed resolutions approving of Mr. Willis's motion for the removal of the Archbishops and Bishops from the House of Lords.

THE BISHOP of ALGOMA appealed for aid towards mission-work in his Diocese at a meeting in Willis's Rooms, on Wednesday, presided over by the Marquis of Lorne, who, with Archdeacon Farrar, strongly supported its claims upon Churchmen. The Bishop in his address said that a large proportion of the population were Ojibbeway Indians, who were still Pagans, and that hitherto in his vast Diocese the Church of England had only fifteen missionaries. The need of aid was dire.



THE ninth debate which has taken place this Session on Ministerial policy in Egypt happily lasted only two nights, reaching an impotent conclusion by the Leaders of the Conservative Party walking out without voting. Of the long series, this debate, which commenced last Thursday and finished on Monday, has been the most depressing. This was natural enough, seeing that it proceeded on the same lines as those that had gone before. There were the same speakers, and with the slightest variation they delivered the same speeches. More than once the affair threatened to settle itself as a spent candle does, by going out. For hours at a time the maximum number of members present was thirteen, and as often as it was counted it was found that of the aggregate the smaller number were Conservatives. This is a fact which told more for the Government than half-a-dozen speeches. The allegation was that their conduct of affairs in Egypt was so faulty, and even so dangerous to public welfare, that all ordinary business must be put aside in order to consider the matter. All business was accordingly put on one side, and thirteen members yawned over the benches whilst one said over again what has been repeated fifty times.

So deeply imbued was the House with the hollowness of the affair that Lord Hartington narrowly missed attention for what turned out to be a most important speech. It was close upon midnight on Monday when the Secretary for War rose. Mr. Gladstone was kept within his room by a cold, a circumstance which increased the prevalent depression. The House is so accustomed to see his familiar figure on the Treasury Bench that it could not bring itself to believe important matters were under discussion when his place was vacant. The House was about half full, members dropping in on their way home from engagements which they could scarcely have found less profitable than sitting through the dreary and pointless platitudes of the so-called "debate." But it soon became clear that Lord Hartington, in his unemotional manner, was contributing an important statement to the endless list of speeches. He first aroused attention by the hint that the Government were considering a scheme for the liquidation of the Egyptian debt, adding that it could be completed only after due deliberation, and in concert with the European Powers. Next he intimated that new arrangements would have to be made for the defence of the Southern frontier of Egypt; that garrisons of a different character from those originally contemplated would have to be posted; that illusions as to the fighting capacity of the Egyptian Army had been dispelled at the first battle of Teb; that no Power not directed by



England could be permitted to establish itself on the littoral of the Red Sea; and that the Government were as surprised as other people by the proposition understood to be made by General Gordon, that Zebehr Pasha was to be named Governor of Khartoum.

Lord Hartington made a long speech, it being nearly one in the morning before he sat down, an accident which forbade able editors the opportunity of fully appreciating in the issues of the morning papers the importance of this speech. Sir Stafford Northcote for the same reason was brief and a little uncertain in his remarks. Moreover, when Lord Hartington sat down the old impatience manifested itself afresh, and Members chiefly wanted the division. This came forthwith with some curious incidents. No amendment had been submitted by the Conservatives. What the whole debate had ostensibly arisen upon was an impossible amendment by Mr. Labouchere almost extinguishing the vote. Of course, the Conservatives could not join in such a project, and, as usual, divided counsels prevailed as to what course should be adopted. Over thirty, as the division list showed, were for following the Constitutional course of supporting the Ministry on the question of Supply. Sir Stafford Northcote had arrived at the conclusion that the most dignified procedure for the Leader of the Opposition would be to walk out without voting, and this he did amid ironical cheers which were renewed as one by one his colleagues on the Front Bench took up their hats and departed, leaving only Mr. Selater-Booth, a rebel, on the Front Bench.

For Ministers and ex-Ministers there is in these circumstances a near cut out of the presence of the jeering House. They can get away behind the Speaker's chair, and so by a private door into the corridor. Private Members must run amuck through the full length of the House. This Mr. Warton did, making his demonstration with a stiff stride, meant to be stately, which greatly tickled the House, and drew forth a round of hilarious cheering. Only thirteen Members voted with Mr. Labouchere, an odd medley, made up of Parnellites, Radicals, and one Conservative—Mr. Percy Wyndham. After this, the vote was agreed to, as was that for naval expenditure in Egypt, though not till an hour had been spent over wrangling, and a series of divisions, in which forty or fifty Members withstood the desire of the House. It was, however, too much for human nature, even case-hardened in the House of Commons, to face the prospect of another debate ostensibly taken on a conjoint vote for naval expenditure, when it had drooped through two nights of speech-making on the military vote.

On Tuesday night the curious spectacle was presented of the House adjourning at eight o'clock, and this for a second time within eight days. People who read of the accumulating arrears of work resting at the door of the House of Commons, so overwhelming as to threaten its Easter holidays, will find a difficulty in understanding this anomaly, but, as a matter of fact, more practical work was accomplished in the four hours the House sat on Tuesday than has sometimes been got through in a week of sittings prolonged into the morning hours. Two Bills, technically called Private, but really affecting large public interests, came under discussion. The first was a Bill, promoted by the Corporation of London, for dealing with the water supply, coercing the Companies into greater deference of the just desires of the consumer. It was certainly an odd spectacle to find so revolutionary, not to say, as Lord George Hamilton did, "confiscatory," a Bill supported by this ancient institution. Lord Randolph Churchill might be trusted to make the most of the concatenation of circumstances, and he fulfilled the expectation. In a lively speech, personally addressed to the Lord Mayor, who sat at his right hand, Lord Randolph denounced the measure, and at the same time paid off an old score which he owed the Lord Mayor, who at a time when the leadership of the Conservative party was under public discussion in the newspapers had espoused the cause of Sir S. Northcote. The Water Bill was thrown out by a large majority representing vested interests. Another measure providing for the creation of a new underground railway from Westminster to Paddington was read a second time by a majority that would insure its respectful treatment by the Select Committee to which it was referred. Finally a Select Committee was appointed to consider means for the preservation of the Thames, and, affrighted at the prospect of a speech from Mr. Arthur Arnold on lands in mortmain, the House shrank to proportions at which it was easily counted out.

The Lords have had a quiet week, indulging themselves on Monday in an academic discussion on the old topic of Russian advances towards India, and on Tuesday were fortified by the recruitment of Lord Tennyson, who having taken the oath and his seat, hastily returned his borrowed robes and quitted the House. On Wednesday the House of Commons had a quiet day with private Members' Bills, and on Thursday took up the Army Estimates.



**ANTON DVORÁK.**—Herr Anton Dvorák, who paid his first visit to England this week, has already become one of the lions of the early spring season. A reception was held in his honour at Mr. Littleton's Sydenham house on Tuesday; on Thursday he was announced to direct a special performance of his *Stabat Mater* at the Albert Hall; on Saturday he will be the chief guest at a "smoking" reception at Mr. Oscar Beringer's house; and next week he will conduct a Philharmonic concert. Herr Dvorák has so rapidly risen to fame, that the recognised dictionaries of biography barely even allude to him. Although a man of forty-three, he was, until six or seven years ago, almost unknown. His father was a tavern-keeper and butcher at Mülhausen, in Bohemia, and the son's business at first lay in the slaughter-house. He, however, acquired the elements of music, partly by listening to peripatetic bands, partly from the town schoolmaster, who taught him sufficiently, at any rate, to assist in the church services and to play at village dances. After a time he relinquished the slaughter-house and went to Prague, where he entered the Organ School under Pitzsch, maintaining himself by playing the viola in the evenings at the Bohemian Opera House. So scanty a living hardly, however, sufficed for even Dvorák's modest needs, and the composer was eventually fortunate in obtaining an "Artist's Stipend" from the Minister at Vienna. Brahms was the first to espouse the cause of the struggling composer, and to secure him a publisher and a hearing. That consummate rhapsodist, Louis Ehlert, soon afterwards praised him warmly, and Liszt and Joachim (through whom he first gained fame here) supported him. Dvorák is still a teacher and organist at Prague; but his compositions, most of them tinged with the national Bohemian flavour, are numerous. They include operas, symphonies, concertos for the piano and the violin, and the *Stabat Mater*, already heard last May under Mr. Barnby at St. James's Hall, and this week announced, under far more imposing conditions, at the Albert Hall.

**THE BENEDICT TESTIMONIAL.**—The Benedict Fund is rapidly progressing. The second subscription-list, issued this week, already exceeds 1,040*l.*, and before the lists are finally closed, and including the profits of the Albert Hall concerts, the total will, it is hoped, be thrice that amount. Mr. Wilson Barrett was last week elected Chairman of the Executive Committee, with Mr. G. Reeves Smith as Secretary, and Earl Sydney, Lord Lonsdale, Lord Gerard,

the Lord Mayor, Mr. Labouchere, Sir G. A. Macfarren, Sir G. Grove, Mr. G. A. Sala, Mr. E. Yates, Mr. E. L. Lawson, Mr. Sims Reeves, Mr. Randegger, Mr. Barnby, Mr. Otto Goldschmidt, Mr. Ganz, and others, as members of the committee, Sir Herbert Oakley is hon. sec. for Scotland, and Sir Robert Stewart for Ireland.

**POPULAR CONCERTS.**—With Madame Schumann and Herr Joachim as leading artists, the time has once more arrived when St. James's Hall is no longer large enough to accommodate all Mr. Chappell's patrons. On Saturday the distinguished pianist played Beethoven's sonata in A, Op. 101, and for an encore her husband's Romance in D minor, Op. 28. On Monday Madame Schumann played her husband's Novellette in E (the seventh of the set of eight dedicated to Henselt), the Nachtstück in F, dedicated to Becker, and the fifth of the set of six studies in canon form written by Schumann for the Pedal-flügel. A rare treat was expected in Beethoven's Piano Trio in E flat (the second of the two dedicated to the Countess Erdödy), as played by so unrivalled a party as Madame Schumann, Herr Joachim, and Signor Piatti. The great violinist, however, somewhat disappointed his hearers by playing most unusually out of tune. As to Madame Schumann, with whose powers rapidly advancing time deals so lightly, she fairly sustained her high celebrity as almost the last survivor of the great pianists who delighted the fathers of the present music-loving generation. Nearly 2,000 people attended this concert, the programme of which, beginning with a Beethoven Quartet and ending with one of those joyous quartets by genial "Papa" Haydn, was of uncompromisingly classical severity.

**GERMAN OPERA.**—In reply to rumours of a hitch in the arrangements for the Richter Opera Season at Covent Garden, in June, the management announce that Herr Franke has just returned from Germany with a hundred engagement contracts already signed, and that when a few pending engagements are settled the full programme will be announced.

**CONCERTS (VARIOUS).**—The Philharmonic Concert was a chapter of disappointments. There had, it is understood, been a dispute at rehearsal with Signor Pirani, who was replaced by Mlle. Krebs. That lady played Beethoven's Concerto in G instead of that in C minor, as announced; while the American vocalist, Mr. Winch, failed to notify his inability to sing until it was too late to provide a substitute. The chief feature of the programme was Brahms' Second Symphony, conducted by Dr. Villiers Stanford. On Saturday the Symphony left in skeleton by Schubert, and completed by Mr. J. F. Barnett, was repeated at the Crystal Palace, but it provoked little interest. Miss Shinner, an English pupil of Herr Joachim, played the Seventh Concerto of Spohr. She has a full though rather a rough tone, and is altogether a young lady of promise. An attempt on her part to play from memory well nigh ended in disaster, which was only averted by the readiness of Mr. Manns. On Wednesday Mr. Oscar Beringer, one of our best pianists, gave a pianoforte recital, the programme being formed chiefly of works of the romantic and advanced schools. Mr. F. H. Cowen also on Wednesday gave a vocal recital, and although, to those who conscientiously sat it out, a programme consisting exclusively of three-and-twenty of Mr. Cowen's own songs may possibly have been somewhat trying, yet the composer must be credited with an honest attempt to raise the drawing-room song to a higher level than that at which it at present aims. A ballad concert, and a chamber concert by Mr. Henry Holmes, were also among Wednesday's appointments.

**WAIFS.**—It is understood that the preliminary contract, whereby Herr Joachim was to play at a series of concerts in America next winter, has been cancelled. Our English tenor, Mr. Maas, will sing at M. Padeloup's concerts in Paris next month. Mr. Gye is said to be contemplating a series of Italian and German operatic performances in New York. A concert is about to be given for the benefit of Mrs. Lynedoch Moncrieff, formerly known as the concert vocalist, Mlle. Nita Gaetano, whose husband was killed near Tokar. Madame Minnie Hauk, at Jacksonville, U.S.A., has thoughtfully purchased thirty or forty live alligators as presents to her friends. Madame Patti proposes to sing at a concert at the Tabernacle, Salt Lake City, and President Taylor will preach between the parts. Miss Florence Copleston, a pupil of Liszt, and daughter of Mr. Copleston, Mr. Abbey's secretary, recently married Mr. J. B. Sadler in New York. Dr. von Bülow has got into hot water in Berlin by referring to the Imperial Opera House at the "Cirque Hilsen." The Philharmonic Society have intervened and stopped the projected first performance of Dvorák's new violin concerto by Joachim, under the composer's direction, at the Crystal Palace to-day. Madame Szarvady, once known as the distinguished pianist Wilhelmine Claus, has reappeared in public at a concert given at the Salle Pleyel, Paris.



**SIGNOR SALVINI'S** impersonation of Macbeth has somewhat disappointed the admirers of that distinguished actor; not because it fails to convey any new conception of the character, but because it is wanting in subtlety and imaginative colouring. A more prosaic rendering of the famous soliloquy to the air-drawn dagger has not been seen of late on our stage; nor can his final encounter with Macduff compare with the picturesque vigour of Mr. Irving's performance, though assuredly the English actor was not conspicuously successful in this part. Signor Salvini gives, it is true, the impression of a brave soldier whose courage is proof against all but a guilty conscience, and the proneness to superfluous terrors characteristic of rough natures in primitive times. Beyond this there is little to be said, though doubtless the Banquet Scene would have been more effective but for the odd behaviour of the ghost. The spectral Banquo has no doubt always been a difficult element to deal with, but the COVENT GARDEN spectacle provokes mirth instead of inspiring awe, chiefly by reason of his strange trick of dropping under the table like a "four-bottle man" in the old convivial days at a late hour in the evening. Altogether Signor Salvini can hardly be said as yet to have added to his reputation among us by his latest visit; though the grandeur of his Othello, bating something for the wear and tear of nine years, still creates a powerful impression. His Conrad in the doleful drama of *Il Morit Civile* is likely to be remembered as one of the most depressing performances that have been witnessed on the modern stage. This, however, is mainly the fault of the Italian dramatist, whose hero, when it is found desirable to get rid of him, drops down and dies with such violent contortions that some of the critics have, not unnaturally, assumed that he has taken poison. Poison or disease is, indeed, still an unsettled question, though disease—albeit the diagnosis might baffle medical science—appears to be most probably what the playwright intended.

Miss Fortescue's name has become of late so familiar to the public in connection with an abortive romance of the Peerage; that her engagement for the part of Dorothy, in Mr. Gilbert's *Dan'l Druce*, at the COURT Theatre, was pretty sure to attract attention in no common degree. The young lady is, we need hardly say, scarcely equal to the honour which circumstances have thus cast upon her; but she is pretty and interesting, and, in spite of nervousness on the

first night, she played the part in a way which secured the sympathy of the spectators. Mr. Gilbert's drama, which was originally produced at the Haymarket some years ago, unfolds an interesting and pathetic story in a masterly fashion, and is one of the best serious plays which our stage has produced in recent times. The revival has the great advantage of the services of Mr. Vezin in his original part of the blacksmith. Mr. Hawtreys' performance of the sailor lover falls unfortunately somewhat short of the poetical fervour of Mr. Forbes Robertson's dramatic performance of the same character. Of the other parts the best are Mr. Clayton's Sir Jasper and Mr. Mackintosh's Reuben Haines. A comedietta, written by Mr. Godfrey, and entitled *My Milliner's Bill*, was produced with success on the same evening. It is a mere duologue between Mr. Arthur Cecil and Mrs. John Wood; but, thanks to the author's clever dialogue, and the sprightly interpretation of these admirable performers, it proved highly diverting, and was received with much favour.

The "unacted" dramatists continue to make their way to the stage through the irregular but convenient medium of occasional *matinée* performances; though unfortunately the result of late has not been satisfactory. A four-act drama, entitled *The Barringtons*, written by Messrs. J. A. Fitzgerald and J. H. Merrifield, and produced at the NOVELTY last week, proved to be weak in story and unskilful in structure. A nautical drama by Mr. Broughton, called *Before the Mast*, brought out at the OLYMPIC on Saturday afternoon, was hardly less successful, the author having added to other offences a rather crude presentation of painful details purporting to depict the cruelties with which British seamen were treated aboard ship seventy years ago. On the other hand, the somewhat unrefined but certainly amusing farcical comedy by Mr. Warren, entitled *Nita's First*, which first saw the light at a recent morning performance, has been judged worthy of being transferred to the evening bill of the NOVELTY, where it is played with spirit, and seems likely to prove popular.

Among recent minor productions of the stage we have to chronicle a droll comedietta by Mr. Arthur Clements, produced at the STRAND, under the title of *Two Photographs*. It is amusingly acted by Mr. Proctor, Miss Eleanor Bufton, and other performers.

Mr. Robert Reece is writing a three-act burlesque on the theme of *La Belle Hélène*, which is to be produced at the Gaiety Theatre.

The next novelty at the St. JAMES'S will be an authorised version of M. Ohnet's novel and play, *Le Maître de Forges*.

American papers state that Mr. and Mrs. Pinerio (the latter better known to playgoers as Miss Myra Holme) are likely to visit America this year, in which case Mr. Pinerio will produce a play in that country.

A new comic opera on the old theme of *Dick Whittington* is to be produced at Easter at the GLOBE.

The late Mr. John Oxenford's long-popular version of the elaborate Porte St. Martin melodrama *Les Deux Orphelins* has been revived at the OLYMPIC with much spirit. Mr. William Rignold, Mrs. Huntley, and Mr. Voltaire resume their original characters, as played by them on the same stage in 1874; while the two orphan girls are represented by Miss Laura Linden and Miss Alma Murray. Mr. Philip Beck, Miss Rose Leclercq, and other members of the company also sustain prominent parts.

Mr. Wilson Barrett has, we believe, definitively determined to try his fortune as a Shakespearian actor. He will first appear in *Hamlet* after the run of *Claudian*, which fine play, however, shows as yet no sign of diminished popularity.

Mr. Hollingshead, who has been seriously, and even dangerously ill of typhoid fever, is now, we are glad to state, fairly convalescent. He was enabled on Tuesday to leave his room for the first time for some weeks.

M. Jacobi has succeeded M. Rivière as musical director of the ALHAMBRA.

Another new theatre is to be built at the West End. The site is in St. Martin's Lane.

Mr. Philip Beck has undertaken to perform the feat of reciting Coleridge's tragedy *Remorse* from memory. The recital will take place, at Exeter Hall, on the 9th of April. Lord Coleridge has promised to be present; and all actors, dramatic critics, and managers in London will be invited.

Mr. Irving has caused to be printed at Chicago a copious selection from American criticisms upon his performances in association with Miss Ellen Terry and the Lyceum company. The publication forms quite a solid book, of which the typography is decidedly creditable to the Chicago presses.

*The World* is to be renewed at DRURY LANE, in September next, on a grand scale.

"How did the gentlemen with the buttonholes enjoy *Peril* on Tuesday, the 11th? Did they spend a happy evening?" This advertisement, which appeared in the agony-column of the *Standard* last Thursday, puts the finishing touch to one of the most excellent of recent practical jokes. There is little reason to doubt that it is inserted, in derision of her victims, by the fair occupant of a stage-box at the Haymarket last Tuesday, who vastly enjoyed the discomfort of the numerous gentlemen who arrived in the stalls wearing red geraniums in their coats, only to find almost every other man in that part of the house similarly decorated. Sweet little notes on scented paper, declaring that the anonymous writer was particularly anxious to make the recipient's acquaintance, had successfully "fetched," it is said, more than sixty adventurous gentlemen.

#### SOCIETY OF LADY ARTISTS

THE extent to which Art is pursued as a profession in this country is strikingly manifested in the Spring Exhibition at the Gallery in Great Marlborough Street occupied by this Society. It contains nearly eight hundred small pictures, and though the majority of them have little claim to notice, a considerable proportion show true artistic feeling combined in some cases with adequate technical skill. A few only of those ladies who have achieved distinction are exhibitors. Miss Clara Montalba, who has consistently supported these exhibitions, sends two admirably luminous little water-colour sketches of familiar Venetian subjects, and a broadly painted and effective view, "On the Thames by Moonlight," in oil. Miss Hilda Montalba contributes "A Swedish Landscape," remarkable for its purity of tone and the excellent draughtsmanship of the birch-tree stems; and Mrs. Louisa Jopling two small studies of attractive female heads handled with her accustomed dexterity. Among the oil pictures by less-known painters is the life-sized head of a French fishing-girl, with a very animated expression on her comely face, by Blanche Jenkins. More complete modelling of form would unquestionably improve the picture, but it has many good qualities to recommend it, including sober harmony of colour, and simplicity of style. The large head, "Isleult of Brittany," by Florence Clow, is also distinguished by accurate drawing and sound workmanship. Charlotte F. Holland's picture of a Normandy peasant girl in a wood, and two fresh outdoor studies, by Mary Wright, are worthy of attention. Among the water-colours the sea-coast and river scenes by Miss K. Macauley are conspicuous for their luminous quality of colour, and the vivid impression of reality that they convey. "A Quiet Haven," with picturesque fishing craft, and the smaller view, "On the Tarbert Shore," are especially good examples of this artist's work, but there are many others scarcely inferior to them. They are all painted with breadth and freedom, but with no lack of completeness. Miss

(Continued on page 258)





THE FRENCH IN TONKIN—THE RECENT BATTLE AT SONTAY  
FACSIMILE OF A DRAWING BY A CHINESE ARTIST

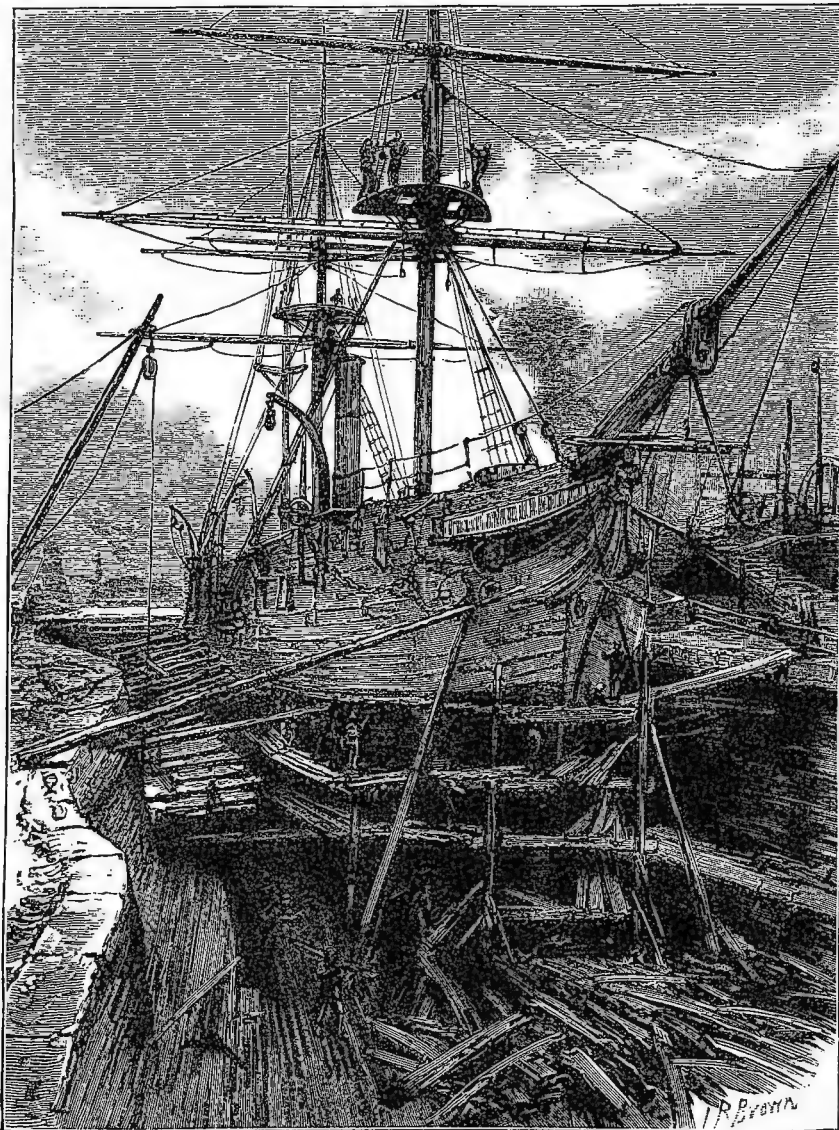
A CHINESE VIEW OF THE BATTLE OF SONTAY

OUR engraving is from a Chinese lithograph, which a correspondent tells us is being sold by thousands in the streets of Canton and Hong Kong. It represents the battle before Sontay on Dec. 16, when the French, under Admiral Courbet, captured the citadel. The fighting had lasted three days, having begun on December 14. The troops were assisted by the gunboats which had ascended the river, and, according to the official accounts, both the Black Flags and the French fought well. The Turcos on the 16th seemed to have stormed and carried the entrenchments of the outlying Fort Phuka with the utmost vigour and fury, while the Algerian Sharpshooters and the Marines from the fleet showed no less bravery. The French loss was about 100 killed and 350 wounded. That of the enemy was much greater; for the Turcos, enraged at the cruelties and mutilations which had been inflicted upon the French soldiers, gave no quarter. The Black Flags evacuated Sontay during the night of December 16th, and early the following morning the French marched in with shouldered rifles, and the French flag floated over the Citadel.

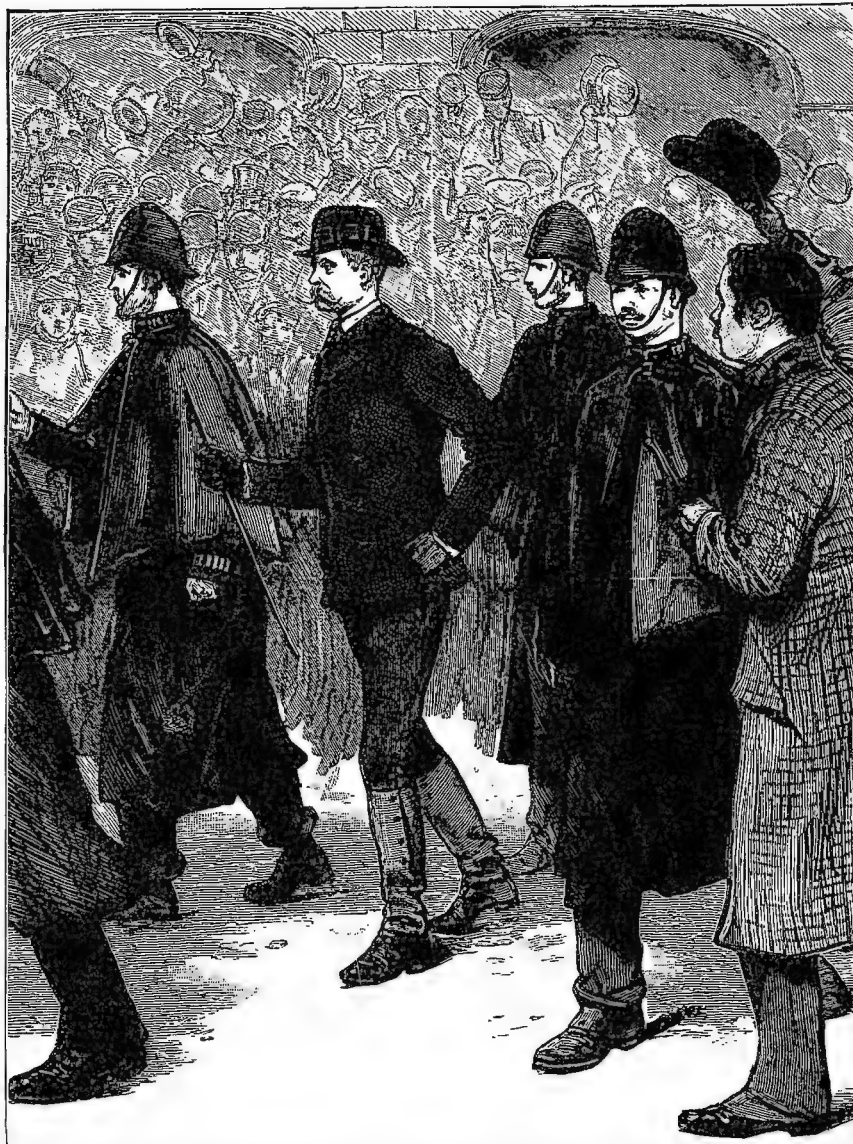
WESTON'S WALK

WITH a view of reaching the metropolis before dark last Saturday, says the *Daily Telegraph*, Weston started out of Brighton on his ninety-fourth stage at three o'clock A.M. Although he had had only about a couple of hours' sleep he appeared wonderfully fresh, at once got into a capital gait, and passed through Preston at 3.40. From thence over Clayton Hill and by Hassock's Gate, he arrived at St. John's Common just as day was breaking. Soon after seven o'clock he reached Cuckfield (fourteen miles), and there halted on the road to partake of some refreshment, which had been prepared for him by the Rev. F. J. Mount. Although pressed to do so, however, Weston would not enter the Vicarage, having previously announced his intention of covering the whole journey without a break. At the same steady pace he completed twenty-three and a half miles at Crawley by 9.40. Up to that time very few people had been met on the road. Here a large number of spectators had assembled, and along the rest of the route crowds were in waiting in every village. At noon Reigate was just skirted, the American bearing off to the right along the Mers-

tham Road. About four miles from Croydon, some mounted policemen rode up, and on reaching the town a body of constables formed on either side, and escorted the pedestrian through an immense concourse of people on foot, on horseback, and in vehicles. A heavy shower of rain thinned the crowd somewhat between Croydon and Streatham, but, before the latter was reached, it was greater than ever again. At Kennington Park the throng received fresh additions from the visitors that had lately witnessed the football match at the Oval, but the police managed admirably, and the pedestrian, by way of Kennington Road and Oakley Street, arrived at the Victoria Coffee Palace a few minutes before six o'clock. He had thus covered a distance of fifty-three miles on the road without a rest—a marvellous effort, considering the exertions he has undergone. As he entered the building he was enthusiastically cheered, and then the people quietly and rapidly dispersed. On Monday, and every day this week, Weston hoped to cover fifty miles in the Victoria Palace, and on Saturday was to complete the 5,000th mile. The aggregate mileage recorded up to his arrival at the Palace is 4,700 miles—the three extra miles covered on Saturday not being counted.



THE SS. "ALERT," GIVEN BY THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT TO THE UNITED STATES TO TAKE PART IN THE GREELEY ARCTIC RELIEF EXPEDITION



WESTON'S TEMPERANCE WALK OF 5,000 MILES IN 100 DAYS—HIS ARRIVAL AT THE VICTORIA COFFEE HALL, WATERLOO ROAD



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Hon. W. B. Dalley, Attorney-General, N.S. Wales    Hon. Malcolm Fraser, C.M.G., Colonial Secretary, Western Australia    Hon. C. D. Kerferd, Attorney-General, Victoria    Hon. H. A. Atkinson, Premier, New Zealand



Hon. James Service, Premier, Victoria    Hon. Alex. Stuart, Colonial Secretary, N.S. Wales    Hon. J. F. Garrick, Postmaster-General, Queensland    Hon. S. W. Griffith, Premier, Queensland    Hon. G. R. Dibbs, Colonial Treasurer, N.S. Wales  
His Excellency Sir G. W. Des Vaux, Governor, Fiji Islands    Hon. Frederick Whitaker, New Zealand

THE AUSTRALASIAN FEDERAL CONVENTION AT SYDNEY



Nora Davison's sketch, "In Brixham Harbour," is strongly suggestive of bright daylight, and there are fine qualities of colour in Miss A. Turner's small "Cliffs Near Saltburn." Among the best of the remaining drawings are Cristina Allen's "Full Tide," Amy B. Atkinson's "Whitby Harbour," Mrs. Stewart Smith's "Santa Maria di Carignano," and a small sketch, "On the Admiralty Pier, Dover," by Mary Anna Wenham.

### JOHNSTON'S "RIVER CONGO"

WE welcome Mr. Johnston's delightful account of "The River Congo," from its mouth to Bolóbo, in King Ibaka's country. He modestly calls it a guide-book to what he thinks will ere long be a touring-ground for Cook's parties, and, as we follow him to station after station, and remember that at each there is peace and security under one or more residents like Lieutenant Janssen (since unfortunately drowned), we are struck with wonder at the change since Stanley first came down the river in 1876, and are quite ready to believe that Leopoldville will not only be a great centre of trade, and therefore of civilisation, but will also boast of "toilet shops, note-paper made from its own papyrus, and a marble statue of the philanthropic Prince after whom it is named." Even now Mr. Johnston had no discomforts except the rain (once lasting twelve hours), and the usual insect pests. He was always well fed—such a contrast to Mr. Bates on the Amazons. At Vivi (where he had one of his two interviews with Stanley), the living was luxurious, and there was "a nice book from the well-furnished station library," whenever he liked reading better than a siesta. At Mtsuata the healthy (half-way up from Stanley Pool to Bolóbo) the very mosquitoes and little black flies are absent, and the place is described in terms which make us anxious to pass a month there, taking care to secure some Zanzibaris, "the best and most attached servants in the world." We wish we could pack our notice as closely as Mr. Johnston has packed his book. He is full of facts, ethnological, zoological, and, above all, botanical—telling of fields of six-feet high orchids separated from the river by a border of dwarf palm; of a mission station where, while the king's wives are at work outside, he and a few idlers "patronise" the service, and are regaled with a chapter out of Joshua; of a model tribe which, having no religion, is safe from the medicine man. His spirited and picturesque style reminds us of Mansfield (*absit omen!*), whose glowing pictures of tropical vegetation fired Kingsley with that desire of which in "At Last!" he depicts the realisation. These forty-seven millions of Bantus are vastly superior to the coast tribes. They can be kind, and even grateful, and are not, like the pure negro, merely dangerous children. We hope Brazzaville, on a site as unhealthy as most of Stanley's stations are the reverse, does not foreshadow trouble between the International Association and the French.



**THE TURF.**—The Grand Military Meeting seems to have fixed itself permanently at Sandown Park, which more than any other tryst offers special attractions for a fashionable gathering. The officers, as is invariably the case, rode with any amount of pluck and no lack of skillful jockeyship, though every now and then there was a display of want of judgment. In order to win the much-coveted Gold Cup some good performers had been secured, such as King Archibong, Quadron, and Scorn, who started favourites in the order named in a field of nine. They had, however, little to do with the finish, though Quadron and Scorn were second and third to Major Thirlwell's Larva, who, ridden by Mr. Murdoch, won in a canter by ten lengths. The Hunt Cup was won by Mr. L. H. Jones's Percy, who started third favourite in another field of nine.—There has been plenty of "cross-country" business at Kempton and elsewhere this week, but little of interest in the running is to be noted; except that Mr. Oehlschlaeger's (a name as bad as that of an unpronounceable Welsh village) Idea beat nine others for the Kempton March Hurdle Race, and on the next day beat four others for the Richmond Steeplechase. The Grand Hurdle Handicap was won by the Duke of Hamilton's Mark Antony.—There is but little general Turf news of interest. Charles Archer has settled in at his new training quarters at Alfriston, Sussex. Abbotsford is among the horses under his charge, and there are not wanting good judges who think the change of quarters may be signalled by a win in the coming Lincolnshire Handicap, for which the American gelding has been quietly backed for a good deal of money.—The Chester Racecourse Committee has unanimously declined the offer of the Town Council to lease the Roodee to the Company on the understanding that the races in future would be conducted on the gate-money system, one-third of the proceeds going to the Town Council in way of compensation.—Wild Arab, Fulmen, Tonans, Bendigo, and Florence head the Lincolnshire Handicap market at the time of writing.—For the Grand National, Zetella, so little thought of a few days ago, has come to the head of the poll, and so Linde's stable, after all, is likely to have a hot favourite. Chancery and Too Good are struck out of the race. Lowland Chief seems to have met with some slight accident on his training ground, and has consequently dropped in the City and Suburban betting. For this race St. Blaise, at 9 to 1, remains a strong favourite, while the American Blue Grass, Superba, and Royal Fern are equal favourites for the Two Thousand. Outsiders keep cropping up for the Derby; and among the latest are Lord Sefton and Seven Oaks.

**FOOTBALL.**—Players generally will be glad to hear that the objections raised by the losing clubs in penultimate games of the Association Cup have been overruled, and that Queen's Park and the Blackburn Rovers have to fight out the final game, which will be played, at the Oval, on the 29th of this month. There has been some grumbling northwards that the venue has been fixed for London, as so little interest comparatively speaking is taken in football south of the Trent.—One of the fastest Association games at the Oval this season was played on Saturday last between London and Oxford and Cambridge combined. For the first few minutes the game seemed as if it would be a pretty even one, but after each side had scored a goal, the University had it all their own way, and scored eight more, their opponents failing to get the ball between the sticks again.—The Blackburn Olympic has beaten the Bolton Wanderers in an Association game, and Surrey, Sussex.—The final game of the Hospital Challenge Cup has been won by London beating Bartholomew's.

**LACROSSE.**—The Leys (Cambridge), with rather a weak team, in consequence of several of their best players having joined the University, played their old opponents, London, on Saturday last at Blackheath, when the latter had a very easy victory by nine games to nil.—The Second Twelves of London and Clapton have again antagonised to the discomfort of the former.

**HUNTING.**—Men, horses, and hounds must be pretty well tired out after the many months' hard work without a break in them caused by friendly frost. Foxes, too, must be sick of the business,

however much those which survived the runs enjoyed the earlier part of the season. A curious incident occurred the other day during a run with the Southdown Hounds, when a fox hard pressed got into Poynings Church, and took refuge in the pulpit. We think this should have been considered a "refuge" which almost rendered him sacred, or, at least, safe from his pursuers. But he was unceremoniously dragged out, and turned down before the hounds, who quietly ran into and killed him. A mounted lady parishioner, in answer to the remark how well her parson looked in the pews, replied that he looked and performed equally well in the "wood." Poor Reynard of Poynings made but a poor show both in the "wood" and in the field.—The Quorn Hounds have been purchased by the Earl of Wilton, the Duke of Portland, and Mr. Behrings. New kennels, it is stated, will be erected within easy reach of Melton Mowbray.

**AQUATICS.**—The Wallace Ross and Bubeat Match came off on Monday, and dispelled all hope of this country as yet retrieving its lost laurels. The ten seconds' start gave Bubeat a five lengths' lead; but, though he did well up to Hammersmith Bridge, the Canadian had gradually overhauled him, and, passing him opposite Biffen's, won as he liked. Bubeat did not show as good form in the race as he had shown in his preparation and before; but Ross showed better. Perhaps Bubeat will yet improve; but his defeat will, it is to be feared, throw a damper for some time on English professional sculling.—The Cambridge Crew has taken up its quarters on the Mapledurham and Reading water preparatory to coming to Putney. Oxford is still the favourite.

**CRICKET.**—The fourth team of Australian cricketers left Melbourne on Tuesday last en route for this country, and they are expected to arrive by the last week in April. The following compose the party:—G. Alexander (manager), A. C. Bannerman, J. M'C. Blackham, G. J. Bonnor, H. F. Boyle, W. H. Cooper, G. Giffen, P. S. M'Donnell, W. Midwinter, W. L. Murdoch (captain), G. E. Palmer, H. Scott, and F. R. Spofforth.

**ATHLETICS.**—Weston, as intimated by an illustration and some remarks in another column, is finishing his 5,000 miles' tramp at the old "Vic" in the New Cut. His task will be completed to-day (Saturday).



**THE LARCH.**—The owners of larch plantations have had such heavy losses during the past ten years, that the further planting of the tree is seriously discouraged. The cause is hard to find, but undoubtedly climate has often failed to receive proper consideration. The home of the larch is on the slopes of mountainous districts; it enjoys above everything a dry, porous soil, through which air can reach the roots. Strong soils are not favourable, and stagnant water is fatal, while the air of valleys seems to be against the larch; and, as the severest frosts occur in our valleys, there has probably been a wholesale destruction of the smaller cells when late frosts have arrived. The matter is one requiring observation, as it would be a great pity for disfavoured to fall upon this quick-growing and profitable tree.

**WATER IN GRASS.**—Meadow grass in Yorkshire has been found to lose 75 to 80 per cent. of its weight by drying to hay. The amount, however, varies in different localities, and Yorkshire exceeds the average. Ensilage received from there has been found to weigh 56 to 60 lb. per cubic foot, whereas from East Anglia 30 to 35 lb.-weight samples have been received. It is curious that ensilage is not much dryer than cut grass in many cases; thus, at the Albert Model Farm, Glasnevin, Dr. Cameron found that some rye grass, when cut, contained 68 per cent. of water; when the silo was opened, the moisture in the ensilage made from this grass was 67 per cent. A similar experiment in Yorkshire only diminished the percentage of water by 5 per cent.

**ENSILAGE.**—A correspondent writes: "I find that milch cows fed on hay eat 28 lb. per day each, and those on ensilage, 66 lb. per day. Those fed on ensilage thrive the best. The 28 lb. of hay represents 112 lb. of grass, and the ensilage 170 lb., showing a gain of over 30 per cent. These figures are rather startling, but are fully borne out by the extra number of cattle that will winter per acreage on ensilage." Other advantages which have been pointed out recently are that, besides being independent of the weather, farmers can cut the crop when in the best condition, which was not always the case with the old method. Being able to get the crop off the land at once, the aftermath can begin growing at once without being interfered with, as it could not always do with hay. Ensilage, too, proves useful for old horses, with bad teeth, &c. Its smell is an objection; for, while it is aromatic and almost spicy when smelt close, the diffused scent, made faint by admixture with the open air, becomes sickly and appears unhealthy, although not really so, no bad gases being given off. We do not know if any condiment has been tried with the ensilage to remedy this.

**SALT IN SILOS.**—There is a decided division of opinion on the point of whether or no salt should be put into the silo with the grass. *Sal sapit omnia* has been the maxim of some; others say that, as a corrective, it is a good thing to have handy, but should be given separately, and not regularly mixed with food. Mr. Kenyon, whose experiments at Machynlleth have attracted some attention, says, "In 1881 I mixed a considerable quantity of salt with the grass as it was thrown into the silo; in 1882 I only did so with about half the ensilage; and last year I discarded it altogether. If the quality of my ensilage is no better in consequence, it has certainly suffered no deterioration by the omission. When as much as 2 lb. of salt is recommended to be added to each 1 cwt. of fodder, it is time to cry 'Hold!' At that rate, in eating half-a-cwt. of ensilage, a beast would daily consume a pound of salt—a quantity almost sufficient to form a brisk purgative. This must surely be too much of a good thing." The only reply to this would be that the proportion is the great thing: 1 lb. of salt to 50 lb. of ensilage is less than 2 per cent. Do not human beings take nearly that proportion of salt with their meals?

**THE BIRMINGHAM SHORTHORN SHOW** attracted 533 entries, a truly grand total, and which, it need scarcely be remarked, included many very fine animals. Special excellence was, perhaps, a little less conspicuous than at the Spring Show in 1883, but the classes were generally creditable, and the number of really useful and profitable purchases, if ultimately ascertainable, might not improbably exceed that of any former Show. A fine bull, "Stilton," shown by Mr. Attwater, took the champion prize. There were no fewer than 169 calves shown, and "Sea Captain" took the first prize, his owner, Mr. J. W. Faux, probably winning by reason of the great size and width on shoulders of his exhibit. Quality appeared to be lacking. With such judges as Mr. Stratton, Mr. Charles Howard, and Mr. Hugh Aylmer, there was general satisfaction expressed with respect to the awards.

**EXTRAORDINARY TITHE.**—It is sincerely to be hoped that the Bill introduced by Messrs. Inderwick, Duckham, and Walker,

and Sir John Lubbock will receive the Royal assent before the present Session is over. It is a measure proposing in an equitable manner to get rid of this objectionable and uneconomic form of tax. The nett annual value of the tithe is to be taken to be the average of the gross receipts for the past seven years, less 25 per cent. for rates and taxes and other outgoings. The capital value of the charge will be assessed by the Tithe Commissioners, who are directed by the Bill to take into consideration the length of time during which the charge has been paid, and all special circumstances connected with the locality. They will eventually certify the capital value of the charge on the whole district, and on the land of each landowner in the district, and after that anybody may change their agriculture from wheat to strawberries, from pasture to hops, or make any other alterations they choose, without incurring any extraordinary charges whatsoever.

**THE SEASON.**—Men are busy saying there has been no real winter, but the garden, the meadow, and the thicket do not seem to agree with humanity on this point. The wheat looks healthy and strong and of a good colour, but it is not extraordinarily forward, although sowings were early last autumn. Again, the almond trees, although rather early, are quite a week later than in some years when December and January have been much colder. As regards fruit trees there is no perceptible difference in their condition as regards flowering. On more than one occasion after we have had sharp frost in January, we yet have had our apricot trees set some fruit by the 15th of March, but it is not so this year. In the Home Counties and East Anglia the primroses in the woods and daffodils in the gardens are not especially early, while the smaller weeds and hedge-row growths do not appear to be in advance of an ordinary season. Some birds paired abnormally early, but not many. Rooks, we are told from more than one part of the country, are rather late this year.

**NATURAL HISTORY NOTES.**—During the first week of March among signs of spring were to be noted the hedgehogs beginning to stir after their winter rest, and the bats on the wing in the evening.—Of rare birds recently observed may be noted the peregrine falcon at Tipnor, on the 14th February, the crested lark at Landport, on the 21st, and the King Guillemot at Langston, on the same day.

**THE ROYAL AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY** have recently been rather busy. They have reported in favour of the Duke of Richmond's Cattle Disease Bill as opposed to Lord Carlingford's, they have elected an important roll of new members, including Lord Berwick, Mr. G. F. Buxton, the Hon. G. Hill-Trevor, and a large number of West Country gentlemen residing near Shrewsbury, where the next Show is to be held. The Society have resolved to meet at Preston in 1885—a very wise choice, and one which has already resulted in an imposing sum for prizes being guaranteed.

**OUR BREAD SUPPLY**, once drawn exclusively from English farms—England exported wheat up to the commencement of the present century—has long since ceased to be even principally English. Out of every seven loaves four are foreign, even in a good year; in a bad one, three out of five. But up to about three years ago the flour was made up in England practically to the exclusion of everything except fine French and Hungarian fancy flour. Now, however, the receipts of wheat as flour from America range between 100,000 and 125,000 sacks a-week, and the English miller is being gradually disestablished. The miller is no favourite of the people in the old ballads, but the country would miss him for all that, and his employees would miss their weekly wage. It is apparently too much to hope that the English people will act for themselves in this matter, yet if they would the remedy is in their hands. Foreign wheat they must have; foreign flour they need not have, and if they refrained from buying American flour they would have the pleasure of knowing that they were helping to keep one branch of profit in the country.

**MISCELLANEOUS.**—The Maidstone Show has been fixed for the 2nd of June and four following days, and the Saffron Walden Show for the 12th and 13th of June.—The Durham Agricultural Society is in a state of chaos; the entire Council having been "asked" by the members to resign, and the "request" having been promptly complied with.—Foot-and-mouth disease continues to diminish; the change from the last week's figures is not large: twenty-one animals; but it is a change in the right direction.—The amount realised for sixty-one Herefords at Mr. Rogers' sale was 2,381*l.*—a fair but scarcely an extraordinary price.



**AFTER A TRIAL** of twenty-nine days, in which some thirty counsel were engaged, the action brought by the London Financial Association against Sir John Kelk and others, including several of the directors of the company, terminated in a verdict for the defendants with costs, which must be enormous. In delivering his judgment Vice-Chancellor Bacon stated unhesitatingly his opinion that the dealings of the accused directors in regard to the purchase of the Alexandra Palace were quite within their competence as defined by the Memorandum and Articles of Association. The claim of the plaintiffs was for 400,000*l.*

**A DECISION OF IMPORTANCE TO BUILDING SOCIETIES** was given this week by the House of Lords, sitting as a Court of Appeal. The question was whether a building society could sue in a Court of law one of its members who was in arrears with certain payments due by him to them, or whether the power to sue was not taken away by the Building Societies Act of 1874, which provided for the settlement by arbitration of disputes between these societies and their members. The Courts below held that the power to sue was so taken away, and Lords Blackburn and Watson upholding this decision, while the Lord Chancellor dissented, the appeal was dismissed with costs.

**IN A CASE RECORDED IN THIS COLUMN** some months ago it was decided by Mr. Justice Pearson that the terms of a lease which prohibited the carrying on of any trade or business in the premises, which formed its subject, applied to a Home for Working Girls in the New Kent Road, established with purely philanthropic objects. The trustees, the Earl of Aberdeen, Lord Kinnaird, and others, have since then resolved not to make any charge whatever for the admission of inmates to and maintenance in that particular establishment; and this being so they asked Mr. Justice Pearson whether he would not now decide that no business was being carried on in contravention of the terms of the lease. While expressing his regret that the question, which was a difficult one, had not been taken to the Court of Appeal, the judge held that, even without payment by the inmates, he must adhere to his former decision. They were neither guests nor visitors, but were "outside of the ordinary domestic life," and the establishment was, in fact, a business carried on by the subscribers to the institution.

**MICHAEL MACLEAN**, seventeen, was executed at Liverpool on Monday for participation in the murder of a Spanish sailor. On the gallows, as previously, he protested his innocence. At the inquest on his body the manner in which Binns, the executioner, performed his task was called in question, and the verdict of the jury censured its inefficiency.

\* "The River Congo." By H. H. Johnston, F.Z.S. (Sampson Low and Co.).



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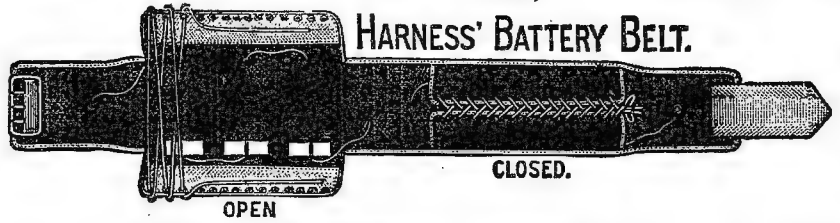
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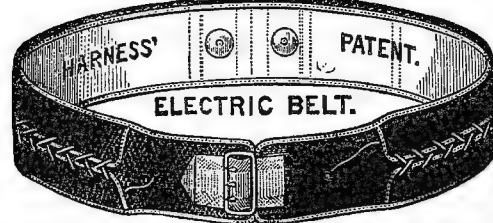
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DRAWN BY CHARLES GREEN

"He then spread a cushion on the carpet, and sat or lay upon it at my feet."

## DOROTHY FORSTER

By WALTER BESANT,

AUTHOR OF "ALL SORTS AND CONDITIONS OF MEN," "THE CAPTAIN'S ROOM," "THE REVOLT OF MAN," &C., &C., &C.

### CHAPTER XII.

FRANK RADCLIFFE

THE second of the brothers came seldom. He was a grave lad: he neither laughed nor made merry, nor rode a hunting like his two brothers. In figure he was the tallest of the three, but stooped in walking, so that he seemed the shortest. He was possessed of a strange melancholy, of which he was never quite free, although sometimes he would seem to shake it off and talk bravely for a while. He was like his uncle, Colonel Thomas Radcliffe, in his temperament, being as moody and as full of strange fancies.

"It is a disease," said Mr. Hilyard, speaking of Francis Radcliffe's melancholia, "for which there is no known remedy, while the causes are subtle and manifold. The patients are subject to strange fancies and illusions; some have thought themselves made of glass and others of feathers; some are held down with fears, and others inflated like bladders with wild hopes; some suffer the curse of Apuleius, in that dead men's bones are always held before them: a strange disease indeed. Yet melancholy men, as Aristotle insisteth, are often witty."

Mr. Hilyard, therefore, regarded this young gentleman with a peculiar curiosity, and loved nothing so much as to talk with him and learn his thoughts. First of all he discovered that this boy was strangely given to the study of all books which he could find upon the unseen world, such as books on oracles, conjuring, of spirits, predictions, astrology, and so forth. On meeting encouragement he opened his mind to Mr. Hilyard and took counsel with him. There was no subject in the world, I believe, in which our most ingenious Oxford scholar was not versed. Therefore Frank learned from him how to conjure spirits, raise the dead, cast nativities, and so forth,—that is to say, all that books can teach. "Which is," Mr. Hilyard said, "everything except the essential. I mean, Mr. Radcliffe, that you may question the stars, but you must read their answer yourself, because they are silent; and you may question the dead—these books tell you how—but I doubt if they will reply."

Nevertheless they began to amuse themselves with casting horoscopes and nativities, erecting celestial figures and the Houses of Heaven, Mr. Hilyard all the time protesting that the thing was a foolish invention, and useful only in that it taught something of the planetary courses. Yet he, like his pupil, watched anxiously for the event; and when, not in one case only, that of Frank himself, but also of the Earl and my brother Tom, the future which they hoped to find lovely and fortunate, came out gloomy and threatening, all the signs menacing, Mr. Hilyard became terrified

and would have no more of it, saying that though it was a vain thing, yet to continue in it might be the sin of tempting Providence, such as that committed by Saul, and that as for him he would ask of the stars no more. Now if the future they had seen in this mirror of coming time had been bright and happy, would they have ceased to inquire? I think not; and strange it is that this thing which so many learned men and philosophers teach us to despise, is yet on occasion believed in even by themselves.

We had many conversations upon these subjects, which, like the tales of ghosts and spectres, are always curious to people of every age and rank. Mr. Hilyard, speaking of the practice among the ancients, one day discoursed upon the common and vulgar methods practised by people in all countries and in times ancient and modern. "Some, for instance," he said, "look in a magic ball of glass, where they see not only the future but also the present, and what is being done in far countries. Others fill a basin with water, and behold the same as in a mirror. Others read the future by dreams; and others by cards; while by the flight and number of birds, the crowing of cocks, the first words heard in the morning, the luck of the day is determined. Some have placed barley on the letters of the alphabet, and noted the order in which a fowl will pick up the grains."

"My maid, Jenny," I said, "reads fortunes by the hand."

"It is palmistry," said Mr. Hilyard, "and a most curious art, though, like the rest, it is vain and useless; though, it hath been held by some, the Lord hath stamped the future of man not only on the palm, but also upon every feature, so that, if we could learn it, we might read in the curve of an eyebrow, the lines of the lips, the turn of the chin, a sure and certain prognostic of what will happen to us before we die. With your permission, Miss Dorothy, we will examine the girl in this matter."

Jenny was called, and I asked her first to read my hand. She replied, looking ashamed, that she had read it many times, but when I commanded her to tell me what she saw there, she hesitated and changed colour, and then replied like a gipsy at a fair when you cross her hand with a groat, that there was a fair young gentleman of a great estate, and that she saw a wedding-ring and happiness as long as a summer day, with a troop of beautiful children. But it was manifest that she said what she thought would please me. Then Mr. Hilyard bade her look at Mr. Frank's hand, into which she peered long and with a strange curiosity. After a while she dropped his hand, and turned to Mr. Hilyard, saying, "Now your's, Sir,"

and read it glibly as if from a book, saying, "The line of life is long, but the course of love is crossed. There is wealth for you, and honour: but no wife and no children. No one hath everything."

"But mine," cried Frank, "what is mine?"

But she replied not, running away. When afterwards I rebuked her, she acknowledged that she could not tell him what she read, so bad and unlucky it was. She also told me that her grandmother, the old gipsy woman of whom I have spoken, had also told the fortune of Mr. Frank by cards, and that it came the same as her own by the reading of his palm, which made me marvel.

"Ask no more," said Mr. Hilyard, "and you, girl, keep these things to yourself, else the people will get strange notions into their heads."

The people had already got into their heads strange notions. First this girl of mine had filled the place with the terror of the ghosts she saw. Next it was said that she was a witch, and ought to be thrown into a pond. Perhaps that would have been done, but for fear of us. Then it was said that she had bewitched a certain young fellow of the place named Job Oliver, a hind. They told Mr. Hilyard that Job would do whatever foolish things Jenny told him to do; that he would sometimes rise when she was not in the company, and say that Jenny called him, and so go to her; that he looked not as he was wont to look, but went about with eyes distracted and trembling hands. "She is a witch," said Mr. Hilyard, "just as all women are witches; and she hath bewitched this foolish lad; but the only arts, I think, are those which she practises in common with all her sex, namely, her eyes and her face. In a word, the fellow is in love."

I spoke to her on the subject, and she confessed, though she looked confused, that it was as Mr. Hilyard said, and that if the man chose to be in love with her she could not help it; perhaps he did and said foolish things, but she could not help that either; and he must do what he pleased. The girl was saucy about it, but yet one could not reprove her, because it makes every woman saucy and self-conceited when a man is in love with her. When she crossed the quadrangle or entered any of their houses, the people looked askance and put thumb in fingers, but yet were monstrous civil because they feared her. Witch or not, she did none of them any harm (I do not believe that a pig which died at this time was overlooked by her, though this was charged upon her). As for Job, after we went away, he presently recovered, looked about him, became once more a cheerful wight, forgot his enchantress, and married another woman, who made him happy in such sort as rustics



understand happiness, that is to say, every year a thumping boy or girl, and every Sunday a great dish of fat bacon. And as for Jenny herself, she paid no heed to what was thought, but went about with an impudent answer for all except her mistress, and a saucy laugh, and singing as she went, as if there was no such thing in the world at all as witchcraft, and she had no powers and gifts above those generally conferred upon young maids, namely, the bewitching of eyes and face, soft speech, and lovely limbs. Yet all the time a deceitful hussy. I knew not, then, though I learned afterwards, that she met Frank Radcliffe secretly, and taught him, I believe, her arts of prediction, and even sent him to see her wicked old grandmother (who I am quite sure was another Witch of Endor), when the camp came once to Hexham. What they told him, between them, I know not, but in the end it became manifest what a gipsy woman can do when a young gentleman is foolish enough to listen to her wiles.

Not knowing these things, I begged Frank to give up this pursuit of his, as a useless, idle, and curious practice. He acknowledged that the priest gave him similar admonition, but yet continued in it, though he knew that he was wrong. Religion forbids it, that is most sure; even if the art were sure and certain, he is foolish, indeed, who seeks to know the coming misery, or anticipates the coming happiness. Let us only live in the present, looking forward with sure and certain hope to the life where there will be no shedding of tears or thought of trouble. Why could not Frank let the future alone? The present, which he spoiled by this, his mischievous curiosity, should have been to him full of happiness, because he had everything that the world has to give—youth, health, strength, riches, an honourable family, and a good heart. What more doth God give to any?

"Why?" said Frank. "What am I to do? There is nothing in this country that a Catholic gentleman can do. We may not hold commissions in the army; we cannot act as magistrates; we cannot enter the Universities; we cannot go into Parliament; we can hold no office, and are cut off from all employment. What wonder if some of us sit down to drink and hunt and nothing more? Why should the country be afraid of a handful of gentlemen who have kept their old faith?"

Truly it was a hard case; yet what to do? We may not have the Pope's subjects in our Houses of Parliament.

"Well," he went on, "what am I to do with myself? I am a younger son with a younger son's portion—enough, but not great riches. You have shut up all the doors; you treat us with suspicion and contempt; you call us Papists. I knew not till we came home how hateful and despised a creature is an English Catholic."

"Nay," I said, for the young man had worked himself into a passion, and the tears were in his eyes, "you have but to ride through any village in Northumberland to see the hatred and contempt with which a Radcliffe is regarded. Fie, Master Frank; you have been abroad so long that you know not the English heart. It may be, as you say, that the Catholics are excluded from civil rights. Is it not because it is believed that you love Pope first and King second? But it cannot be that there is nothing for a Catholic gentleman to do."

"Oh, yes," he said bitterly; "there is always something. I may go to Douay, and so presently come back with shaven crown, and even be made some day, if I am fortunate, a Bishop *in partibus*."

All this was true. There were here three brothers rich in gifts and graces. The eldest should have been a great statesman, the second a great scholar, and the third a great soldier. Yet, because their ancestors presumptuously chose to remain in the old religion, when the people were ordered all to change for the new (because it is foolish to suppose that the country gentlemen and the very rustics and hinds had wit and learning wherewith to argue for or against the Faith), they were condemned, they and their descendants, to idleness. Wherefore the eldest, who had the estates, the wealth, and the power, resolved on spending his life in good works and the advancement of the poor committed to his trust; and the second became melancholy, and troubled himself about things hidden from mankind; and the third—he was only a boy as yet—was going to become a Beau, and to follow all the pleasures of the town. Why, what a waste of gifts was here! And all for the Mass which stood between.

"As for my Lord," said Tom, "he is very well. He rides as straight as can be expected. His shooting will improve, and no doubt he will presently learn to lay money on matches and fights, though at present he cares little about such sport. And as for Charles, it is a promising boy and well plucked. But as for Frank, he does nothing at all: he will neither laugh, nor sing, nor drink, nor hunt—what is to be done with him? Tony, he loves your company. Can you make nothing of him? Can you not even make him drink?"

"Indeed, Sir," said Mr. Hilyard, "the English law opens to a young gentleman who is a Papist no opportunity at all for distinction. He must therefore either be made a priest or remain a sportsman. He has his choice between a saint and a cock-fighter. Mr. Frank, though born to be a scholar, has little calling to the saintly profession, and none at all for cock-fighting. So that, unless he change his disposition or his creed, he is likely to remain in his present melancholy."

"As for the cure of melancholy," Mr. Hilyard went on, "there are many things enumerated by the learned Burton. Borage, for instance, or bugloss, of which Helena's famous bowl was made, after drinking which she felt no grief or remorse; marigold, put into broth; hop, which may be infused into ale, and taken by melancholy men with much advantage; betony, the root of which is sovereign for the causing of mirth; pennyroyal, wormwood, and other herbs, any of which may be taken by Mr. Francis without fear."

"Give him," said Tom, "a bowl of punch after a day's hunting; make him dance after a pretty woman. A fig for all your herbs, and broths, and messes, Tony. Betony for the causing of mirth! Why, then, to-night, instead of whisky punch you may have a mess of betony."

But Frank Radcliffe's case was beyond the reach of herbs, and not even a bowl of punch would help—partly because he could not drink punch.

I spoke about him to my Lord, who owned that he could do nothing for his brother.

"There is among us a strain of melancholy. My uncle, Thomas Radcliffe, hath it, and cannot be cured, though he wears a chalcadony in a ring, and hath taken medicines of all kinds, both simple and mineral, yet none to cure him. I doubt not Frank will be like him. Yet it is a good sign that he sometimes leaves the library to come here. The law, of which he justly complains, is hard upon us all. Yet we cannot alter it by crying. The Jesuit Fathers made of him a great scholar, and wanted to make him one of themselves, and in the end a priest—nay, perhaps a Bishop, or even a Cardinal. Higher than that one need not look unless one is an Italian, when the Triple Crown itself of Christ's Vicar on earth is possible. It is long since we had a Bishop in the family, and a Cardinal never. But if Frank will not, he must content himself with having such amusements as he can find for himself which will please a simple scholar and a private gentleman. He will grow wiser and merrier in time as he grows older. Meantime, we are as yet strangers in the country, and have much to learn. For the people are not like the people whence we have come; the gentlemen are not like those at St. Germain; the ladies are not like those my mother (who hath

never seen the North) taught me to expect—namely, hoops and patches and courtesies and fine sayings, instead of Arcadian shepherdesses, and the charms of Nature—and fair Dorothy."

Alas! To think that the melancholy of this unhappy young gentleman was partly caused by so humble and insignificant a person as my maid Jenny. Yet, strange as it seems, there is, in fact, no person in the world so humble and so insignificant—not even a shepherd boy, a hind, a stable-help, a scullion—but he can do mischief. The story how one was so desirous to achieve fame and so helpless by himself, being dull of understanding and unlearned, that he was fain to fire and destroy the noblest temple in Asia Minor, the ruins of which remain to this day, and have been seen by travellers, is, I think, an allegory.

## CHAPTER XIII.

### CHRISTMAS EVE

Now I come to tell of a fortnight of so much happiness that I can never forget it, or tire of remembering it. Every day—nay, every hour of that happy time, lives still in my mind, though it is now nearly thirty years ago, and I, who was then eighteen, am now well-nigh fifty, and am no more beautiful. That matters not, and before long, if it please merciful Heaven, I shall be beautiful again. This time was so happy to me because it changed an admirer into a lover, and a woman who waits for love into a woman who has received love. Call me not an old maid, I pray you, though I am no wedded wife and mother of a husband's children, because I have enjoyed the love of a man and exchanged with him those sweet endearments which are innocent and lawful between a young man and a maid who love each other. She alone is an old maid who hath never been wooed; into whose eyes no lover hath gazed to rob her of her heart; whose hands have never been pressed; whose ears have never listened to the fond exaggerations with which a lover pleads his passion, and tries to tell how great and deep it is, though words fail. But, as for me, I have been loved by many, and I have loved one—yea—I have loved him—alas! alas!—with all my heart and with all my soul. Yet, I hope and pray, with innocence of heart, so that this my passion may not be laid to my charge, for though I loved him well, I loved, or tried to love, my God better. And this, too, I will show you.

The time was Christmas. My Lord kept open house at Dilston for his friends and cousins, as many as chose to come (but he invited Tom and me); and for his farmers and tenants, and all the poor people around, even counting those of Hexham, so generous he was. During all the time from Christmas to Candlemas there was nothing but the roasting of beef and the eating of it, with the drinking of ale, and every day such amusements as men of all sorts and conditions love: namely, quarter-staff, cudgels, wrestling, fighting with dogs and cocks, and so forth; the people of the town flocking to see them—the gentlemen not ashamed of getting a bloody crown from a rustic champion; the rustics proud to prove their mettle before the gentlemen, and delighted to drink to them afterwards. A busy and lively time—the maids running about to see the shows, and more eager to witness a wrestling match than to do the dairy work; the grooms talking and playing with the girls, and no one reproaching them; no one zealous for work but the cooks and serving-women, who had a hard time of it, poor souls, continually roasting, boiling, laying of cloths, bringing of meat, carving it for hungry men, carrying pails of beer and pouring it out into the brown jugs with their great heads of foam. Yet none grumbled: the more they served the merrier they became. A cook is only happy when she is at work; between whiles she is irritable, short of temper, and grumbling at the hardships of her lot and the shortcomings of scullions. But when she is bending over stew-pots and griddles, she is truly happy. Perhaps a sense of the blessings of plenty at such times is felt by her soul so that, in a way we little regard, she may be lifted upward by the contemplation of a rib or sirloin, with fat and lean in goodly show. I have seen a cook gaze upon a leg of mutton with tears in her eyes, as one who hears a sweet strain of music, or considers the picture of a handsome man.

A girl who goes on a visit to so grand a house as Dilston, among ladies who have lived in London and gentlemen who know the splendours of a Court, is naturally troubled about her clothes, and thinks a great deal beforehand of the fine things she has to show. It would have gone hard with me, whose frocks were all of country make and most of rough and cheap material (my petticoats for daily wear of homespun), but for the late visit of Lady Crewe. For I had no pin money of my own, or any allowance from my father, who considered that I now belonged to Tom and her ladyship. Fortunately I am clever with my needle, and so was my maid Jenny. Tom, poor fellow, had no money to give, because he spent it all in his amusements; all, that is, which he got from Durham. Besides, most men, though they are careful about their flowered waistcoats and gold buckles, seem to think that for women brocade grows wild on every hedge, and satin hangs in rolls from every tree. Now before she went away Lady Crewe called me to her room, and then after causing me to be measured (which showed that we were both of a height), she brought out a great parcel of fine things—treasures, they seemed to me—saying kindly, "Child, the granddaughter of Sir William Forster, of Bamborough, should be able to go as fine as her neighbours. Since thy brother loves to have thee with him, it shall be the care of thy mother's sister to see thee dressed becomingly on occasion, so that no one, gentle or simple, may think that a Forster is not as good a lady as any in the county."

Had it not been for this munificent gift, which came in pudding-time, so to speak, I should have gone to Dilston crying instead of laughing, because my petticoats were so short and my best frock so shabby. Alas! we grow old, and fine things, which once set off rosy cheeks and bright eyes, only serve now to hide the ravages of time.

So that, thanks to the kindness of Lady Crewe, I could reflect without dismay upon the grand dresses of the Ladies Katharine and Mary, and though the day on which we rode across the bleak moor to Dilston was so cold, with driving sleet and a bitter wind, that my horse was led by a boy, and my face kept covered with a hood, my heart was quite warm when I remembered that on one of the pack-horses behind (I was fain to brave the blast in order to look back and see that the animal had not been blown away) were safely packed my silk-quilted petticoat, altered to fit my waist, and none could tell that it was not new, my French girdle, very pretty, my sable tippet lined with Italian lute-string, my velvet frock, made for Lady Crewe in London by a Court-dressmaker, and very cunningly altered for me by Jenny—that girl should have made her fortune in dressmaking—my cambric and laced handkerchiefs, laced tuckers and ruffles, French kid gloves very fine (Tom gave me these, having bought them at Newcastle one day when he rode and won a match of twenty pounds a side), my satin apron, my French *à-la-mode* hood, my petticoat and mantua of French brocade, my cherry-coloured stays, and for morning wear my frocks of painted lawn, checkered shade, and watered tabby. As for my headdress, I had considered this important subject with Jenny, and resolved that I would wear (as most suitable for my age and unmarried condition) a low coiffure, with falling lappets, such as Jenny could easily arrange even though the elder ladies should think fit to appear every day in high comodes. I was also happy in the possession of an *étoir*, which had been my grandmother's—a vastly pretty thing, with a gold watch, and places for scissors, knife, pencil, ivory tablets, box for thimble.

another for aromatic vinegar, and a third for perfume (my favourite was from childhood the same as Lady Crewe's, namely, bergamot), and a multitude of pretty old-fashioned things worked in gold, such as little birdcages, eggs, tiny anchors, and so forth, and a seal with the family coat of arms and the Forster legend:—

Let us dearly then hold  
To mind their worthiness  
The which our parents old  
Hath left us to possess.

Enough said of a simple girl's finery, though in truth it made me happy at the time to think that I could stand among great ladies and not be ashamed of my homely dress. Perhaps it makes me happy still (or rather less sorrowful) to remember the things which caused my first happiness. Mr. Hilyard (he came with us) says that a great Italian poet declares that the memory of past gladness makes more sad the present sorrow. It is presumptuous to set up an opinion against a poet, but this is very certain, that there is one woman to whom all her consolation (excepting always the hope of the future) lies in the memory of the past. Why is joy, which comes so rarely and flies so swiftly, given to men except to be a lasting memory and consolation? The summer of our North-country is short, and the winter is long, yet all the year round we think of the sunshine, and in the cold winter eat with gratitude the fruits and harvests of the summer. So should it be with our hours, days, or years of happiness. In the cold winter which follows—love fled, friends dead, fortune lost, pride destroyed—our hearts should be warmed and our pains consoled with the mere thinking upon the vanished joys, just as I still think upon my stay at Dilston. Shall not an old man comfort himself with thinking of his former strength, and an old woman with the thought of her former beauty? I myself, being now in middle life and no longer comely, remember with grateful joy that my beauty once gave pleasure to all who looked upon it, loveliness in woman being, like the gracious sunshine, a gift for all alike, even to those who value it least and are insensible to its delight. To be sure, in those days, I knew nothing of the pleasure which all men feel, rich and poor, young and old alike, though some are more insensible than others, in the contemplation of a lovely woman, so that some have beautiful faces painted on their snuff-boxes, and do gaze upon them constantly, even to the wasting of their time and the troubling of their heads, as the Greek gazed upon and fell in love with, and pined for, his statue, until Venus changed the marble into flesh; though it hath never been related that a miracle was wrought with a snuff-box, and one has never heard that a painted face has been transformed into a beautiful damsel.

Well; Dilston was reached at last, after that cold ride, and you may be sure that Tom bawled lustily for hot mulled ale. We found the Castle full of the Radcliffes, and all the great house astir with guests and servants and preparations for the Feast.

My expectations proved true. The Ladies Katharine and Mary were richly dressed, indeed; yet with something sombre and nun-like, as was said to be affected by Madame de Maintenon, the French King's wife. The gentlemen were dressed after the plain Northumberland fashion, except the Earl and his two brothers, who, after the manner in which they were brought up, dressed with great richness; even Charles, the youngest—who was not yet at his full height, and only fifteen years of age, and wore his own hair tied behind with a crimson ribbon—had a silk coat, a flowered waistcoat, white silk stockings, and red-heeled shoes. Everybody was so good as to compliment me on the appearance which I made. Even the ladies kindly said that, though my maid was only a country girl, she had so dressed my hair as to give it a modish look, and that no one could have looped my frock better, or more becomingly shown a rich petticoat.

"It is the first Christmas we have spent at home," said the Earl. "We must forget none of the old customs of the country. Besides, they are all Catholic customs, which is another reason for keeping them up."

"Mr. Hilyard, my Lord," I said, "will have it that many of these are pagan, though transferred to Catholicism, and long ago adopted by the Church."

He laughed, and called me an obstinate little Puritan.

The supper was served in the Great Hall, decked with holly and mistletoe; a Yule log was blazing upon the hearth; the side-tables were bright with the Radcliffe plate; and the tables were covered with Yule cakes, which are, in the North, shaped like a baby, and Christmas pies in form of a cradle, not to speak of goose pies, shrid or mince pies, carraway cakes, brawn, sirloins, turkeys, capons, hams and gammons, pheasants, partridges, hares, and everything good and fit for man's delight. When all was ready and the company assembled, they brought in the Boar's head, maids and men following, all lustily singing—

Nowell, Nowell,  
Tidings good I have to tell.

There were but moderate potations at the supper (but some of the gentlemen made up for it afterwards); and, when supper was done, the company all left the table together, and sat down to cards, which must never be omitted on Christmas Eve, if you never touch a card on any other day. There was a basset table, and a quadrille table, and a pool of commerce. I played at the last with my Lord, Charles, and others; and I won twelve shillings, which made me tremble to think what I should have done if I had lost so much. Indeed, I had not so much as twelve shillings in the world. After the cards we played another game—everybody to say what most he loved and least he liked. In such a history as this it would be folly to record how my Lord vowed that most he loved Dorothy's smiles, and most he dreaded Dorothy's frowns. Nevertheless, it must be owned that these compliments are pretty things; they keep up the spirits and courage of a girl, and her good opinion of herself, which is a great thing. Mr. Errington of Beaufort, who was one of the company, said many pleasant things, pretending to be twenty years younger, and to mistake me for my aunt, the beautiful Dorothy Forster, whose suitor he had been. Of course I knew that he flattered me; but yet I was pleased. To have such pretty things said by so old a man is like the gift of a sweet golden russet of last year in the month of April. As for Charles Radcliffe, the mad boy swore loudly that he would be Miss Dorothy's knight, and pranced about singing, with gestures like a Frenchman, that sweet old song:

Charmante Gabrielle,  
Percé de mille dards,  
Quand la gloire m'appelle  
A la suite de Mars,  
Cruelle departie!  
Malheureux jour!  
Que ne suis-je sans vie  
Ou sans amour!

"We are in England, Charles," said his brother; "we are at home. Let us have no French songs."

For some of the gentlemen looked dissatisfied. The language of gallantry and compliment was not greatly to their liking, and Tom even burst out a-laughing at hearing his sister so praised and complimented. This made me blush far more than any compliment. One does not expect of a brother the praises and flatteries of a suitor; but, at least, he should not be wholly insensible to a sister's beauty, or laugh at men who praise it. But then, Tom always loved his gun, his horse, his dog, and his bottle better than any woman. Presently he went away, with most of the others, to sit over the wine, and there were only left my Lord and his brothers, the ladies, Mr. Howard, the old priest, and Mr. Errington; and these, left to themselves, sat about the fire and told stories suitable to the time of year.



Strange, indeed, that men should be so venturesome as to doubt the truth of what hath been most abundantly proved. Yet Lord Derwentwater laughed at the stories of the Northumberland ghosts, for no other reason than that they had no ghosts at St. Germain's. But Mr. Howard, who had lived in the county before, and knew better, shook his head, and the ladies looked at each other with surprise, and Mr. Errington solemnly reproved this doubter.

"My Lord," he said, "there is not a Northumbrian, man, woman, or child, that believes not in the appearance of apparitions; nay, most of us have ourselves seen them. You have spent your youth in towns and courts where, to be sure, there is little chance of meeting fairies. When you have learned the savage wildness of the moors, the solitudes of the woods, and the silence of the long winter nights, you will speedily be converted, and doubt no more. Northumberland, without her ghosts and fairies, would be but half populated."

"Truly," said the Earl, "one ghost, methinks, were as efficacious as a hundred for the conversion of a doubter."

He then spread a cushion on the carpet, and sat or lay upon it at my feet, saying,

"In France they call them old wives' tales. Let us hear of our North-country ghosts from young lips. Tell us some of your most frightful, Miss Dorothy."

Thus invited, I was greatly confused; but (with the assistance of Mr. Errington, who helped me, and suggested one history after the other) I boldly began upon the stories current among the people, and substantiated by evidence which cannot be denied; *videlicet*, that of the persons who themselves have seen the visions and appearances described.

The Earl knew nothing. He had been allowed to grow up in ignorance of his native county most astonishing. As for his brother Frank, he already knew something, having perhaps learned it (though of this I was then ignorant) of Jenny Lee and of others, being a youth of inquiring mind, who asked questions. It was astonishing to think that a Radcliffe should grow to years of manhood without having heard even of the Laidly Worm of Spindleston Heugh, or the Seeker of Dunstanburgh, or the fairies brought to Fawdon Hill by the Crusaders, or of King Arthur at Sewingshields, the Monk of Blinkburn, Jeannie of Haselrigg, or Meg of Malden. "Let us all," said my Lord, "go seek in Dunstanburgh, and dig into the earth at Sewingshields. Yet stay, how would King Arthur agree with the Prince, should both return together? Methinks we must first consult his Highness. Go on, fair story-teller."

Then I began to tell of things more certain; not so ancient, and witnessed by people still surviving. Then the two old ladies, who

knew better than myself the stories of Northumberland, nodded their head, caught each other by the hands, held their breath, shook forefingers at their nephew, and asked in the pauses between the stories, was there ever before a Radcliffe who had to be taught these things at one-and-twenty? Pretty it was to see how much these ladies thought of their nephew, and how their kind eyes rested upon him with happiness.

Also, while I told my tales, I saw how Frank listened, with large sad eyes, and sighed as if for the mere pleasure of listening to such stories, as one who was for ever considering how to converse with the dwellers of the other world. It was plain that he was ready to believe, ay! and even to see whatever he was told. Of such are those who most frequently believe spectres, see visions, and have strange dreams. He breathed quickly: he sighed: he looked round him as if in the dark depths of the great hall, and among the figures in armour, behind the tapestry, there lurked the very shades and appearances about which we were speaking. As for old Mr. Errington, he reminded me of this story and of that, filled up the details, wagged his head, and, like the Lady Mary, shook his forefinger at my Lord—the Didymus or Unbeliever. There was also Mr. Howard, an old man of venerable aspect. He sat with his chin upon his hand, less occupied with the stories than with gazing upon the young Lord of all, as he lay at my feet, the red light of the fire playing upon his face which was upturned to look upon mine.

Simple things, yet terrible, are the omens and appearances in this haunted county.

I trembled while I told of the ghostly and shadowy hearse which, especially in the winter nights, rolls slowly and silently—an awful thing to see—up and down the roads till it comes to the house where the death is going to happen, and how a farmer once going home from market saw the hearse stop at his own door, and knew that one of his family would die. There were six tall sons, each one strong and brave, and three daughters, each one beautiful: and there was his wife. Which would be taken? The rest of that story is enough to convert the greatest scoffer, as well as to turn the sinner to repentance. Then there is the Wauf or figure of the person about to die seen by another person. Surely it is a most dreadful thing to have the power of seeing the Wauf, for if one sees it, there arises a doubtful and difficult question: should the person who is to die be told of it, or not? If he be told he may fall into despair; and if not, then a great opportunity of seeking grace for the soul is lost. There is also the Brag, which may assume whatever shape it pleases, as a calf, or a bundle of wood, or a hare, or a rick of hay, or anything which its tricky

and mischievous imagination may choose, to order to confound and tease a poor man or woman. And then there are the actual ghosts, whose number is in our country legion, such as Jethro Burnet, the miser, who still walks lamenting the loss of his money bags; the wretch who hanged himself, and hath since found no rest; the poor girl who was murdered and the man who murdered her: the former hovers beside the pool wherein she was cast, and the latter sits beside the gibbet at Amble, where he was hanged in chains: Meg of Malden, who walks of a night between Malden and Hartington; the poor wretched woman who wanders on Hexham Moor at night shrieking and crying (at Blanchland she can be heard plainly any night when the wind is high) because she killed her child with neglect, and now suffers—one knows not for how long—this misery; all these things were certainly intended for our admonition and warning. Again, there are the white figures which sometimes appear to fly from under the foot of the belated traveller; there is the strange and well authenticated story of Nelly the Knocker; that of the Ghost of Silky; that of the fairy changing the little dwarf Hobbie; how a lad going forth one night to walk with his sweetheart found her changed into the Devil; with many other strange and true stories, showing what may be expected and hath already been witnessed in the county.

They listened, as has been told. They looked fearfully about the room. No one thought that in five short years Dilston Hall itself would be left to decay, and, in ten years more, another mournful figure would be added to the troop of Northumberland ghosts.

"This," said my Lord when I finished, "is a fitting North-country termination of a Christmas feast; to sit after supper and tell bugbear tales. Fair narrator! You have so well done your part, that, henceforth, I promise you, I will accept them all. I doubt no longer. If I were to meet Silky herself, I should not be surprised. If I heard Nelly the Knocker or saw Meg of Malden walking in the corridor, or the ghost of my great grandmother—"

"Nephew," said Lady Katherine, gently, "do not mock; the spirits of our ancestors may be round us at this moment, with our guardian angels. Vex them not, lest, when we go to join them, they meet us with angry countenance."

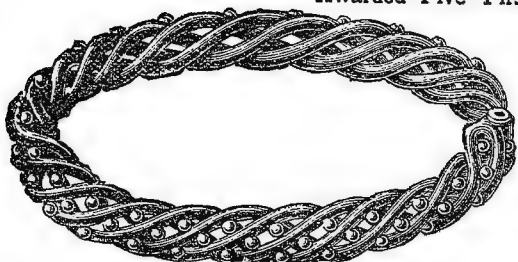
"Enough of ghosts," said Mr. Howard. "To-morrow is Christmas. It is always the time to think about the next world, and sometimes we may, with edification, hear these tales, which, true or not, help to keep faith alive; and these are times, Master Frank," he laid his hand upon the boy's shoulder, "when we must rejoice in the present, feast, make other people joyful, and be glad ourselves."

(To be continued)

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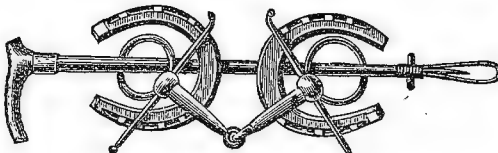
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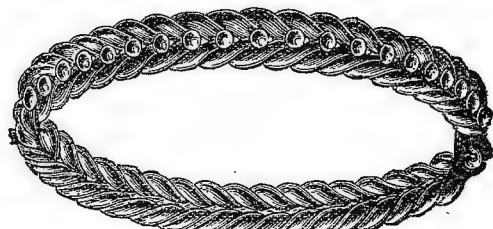
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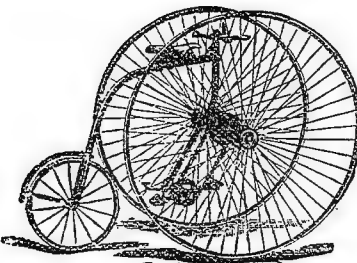
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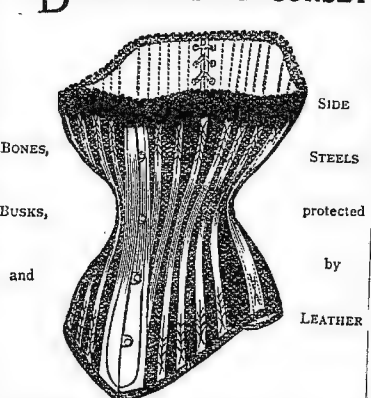
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# GENERAL GORDON, II.

WHO HE IS AND WHAT HE HAS DONE

BY A. EGMONT HAKE, AUTHOR OF "THE STORY OF CHINESE GORDON."

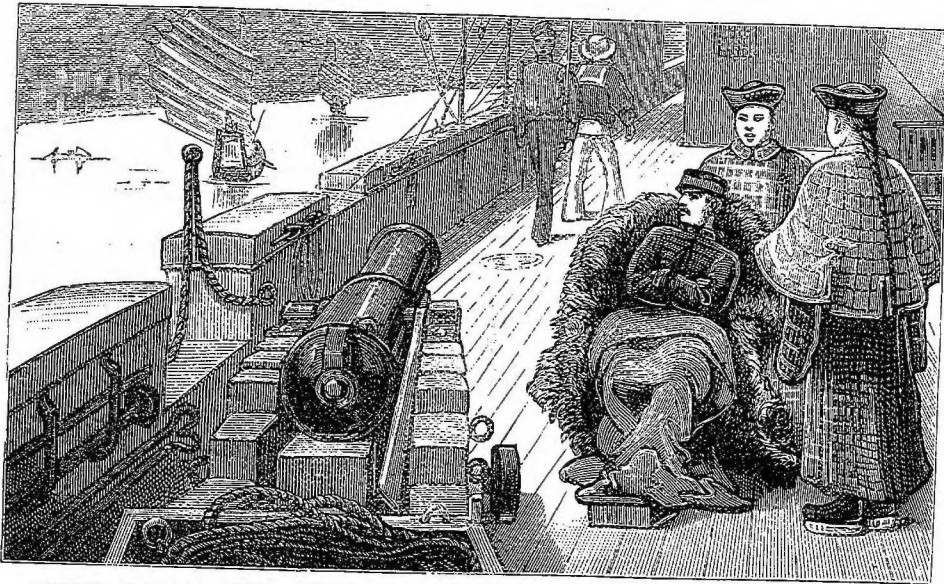
SPACE FAR BEYOND OUR ALLOTTED LIMITS would be needed to tell the story of how Gordon circled round the city of Soochow, and with his small force seized fort after fort from the Rebels' hands, filling the vacated positions with Imperial troops before starting for further conquests; of the difficulties he encountered with the Futai on questions of arrears of pay for his men; or of the mutinous spirit in the force which that official's narrow policy served to keep alive. We have said that Burgevine had gone over to the Rebels, and with a knot of followers who had been crimped to Soochow, he was now in the beleaguered city, and had been raised to the dignity of Wang. But the promotion had not satisfied his ambition, and, foreseeing that the place must soon fall, he was anxious to make his escape. Besides, he had thought out a great scheme, and this scheme he wanted to place before Gordon, and if possible to secure his aid in carrying it out. He therefore proposed that a meeting should take place between them on a bridge near the city. Gordon, of course, knew nothing of the American's intentions, but on being asked for an interview agreed to grant him one. Burgevine then unfolded to him a plan by which he proposed to conquer China, and found an empire for himself; and at the same time asked Gordon to join him in the scheme, and to share with him the spoil. It need not be said that Gordon refused point blank to have any share in such a venture.

It was now winter, the work of taking all the forts round Soochow was completed, and the fall of the city was imminent. The Wangs had striven hard to beat back the enemy at the walls, and even at this the eleventh hour more than one was averse to surrender. Each morning with the rising of the sun they flaunted their many-coloured flags and banners on the ramparts, mirrored in the vast waterways that hemmed the Eastern Venice round, and greeted with shot and shell from Gordon's lines. The great Moh Wang wandered about Morning Palace, troubled at the entreaties of his brother Wangs, who wished to throw open the gates. The citizens too were tired of their prison life, and the tea-houses echoed with angry cries at the ruin threatening their trade. Secret parleys had been going on between the other Wangs, and General Ching, at their request, had called on Gordon to meet them on the question of terms. They had asked mercy for

themselves, and protection against the plundering spirit of the Imperialists; Gordon had conferred with Li-Hung Chang, and had come to a distinct understanding with him that the lives of the Wangs should be spared, and that there should be no looting. It had also been agreed that since Moh Wang was averse to surrender at any price, he should be persuaded to approach the ramparts, dropped over into a boat, and placed in Gordon's charge. Such, then, was the state of things on the eve of the city's fall; and

good service for the Heavenly King, and had never yet been known to yield. The Wangs knew all this; but all he urged they loudly opposed, and high and bitter words arose. Presently the Kong Wang got up, flung aside his robes, and striding to the dais, stabbed Moh Wang in the back. Then, assisted by the others, he bore him to the palace-yard, where a Tiench-Wang severed his head from his body. After this they all mounted their horses, and rode away to their troops. This event led to the surrender of Soochow. Of the

seven Wangs, five had been in favour of handing over the city to Gordon and the Imperialists, and of the remaining two one was now dead, and the other, Chung-Wang, made his escape during the night, and fled in the direction of Nanking. Therefore, on the following morning, when General Ching and Gordon advanced to the east and north gates, they were allowed to enter the city without opposition. Gordon, however, was anxious lest his own troops should get out of hand and begin plundering; for they had fought hard and continuously without receiving any remuneration hitherto for the places that had fallen by their efforts. He therefore withdrew his men until he could arrange with the Futai the amount of *batta* his troops should receive, and in this way he prevented all chance of pillage on their part. Then he entered the city alone, intending to visit Nar Wang, whom he looked upon as a good Wang, and to assure him and his brother Wangs that their lives and property would be protected, according to the terms of the agreement already made. While on his way he met all the Wangs, who not only expressed themselves as content and feeling secure, but also praised the behaviour of the Imperialist troops, who were thronging the streets, and acting in an orderly manner. Gordon being satisfied returned to his own men, and spent the rest of that day in making necessary arrangements, and in subduing a mutinous spirit that had broken out since they had not been permitted to go into the city. Early the next morning he again entered Soochow, attended only by his interpreter, and again sought Nar Wang's house, which he reached at 11.30. There he met all the Wangs, who were mounted, and about to visit the Futai, intending to formally hand over the city to him. They were still in good spirits, and Nar-Wang said that everything was going on

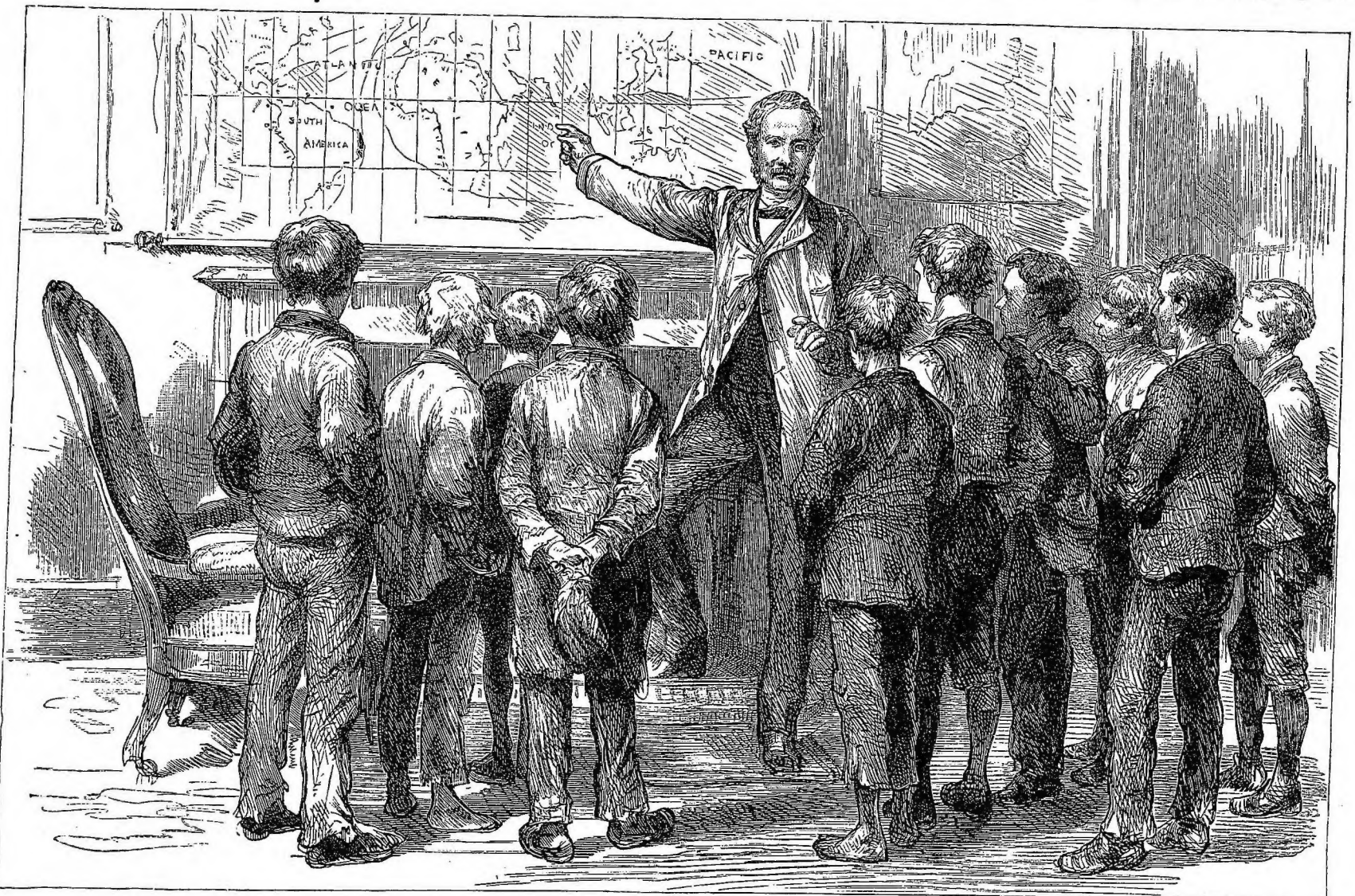


GORDON IN CHINA, 1864—RESTING ON HIS BOAT AFTER RECEIVING A WOUND AT KINTANG  
"Gordon took advantage of the water-system, which was good and complete, to command from his boat. In her he lay disabled, accompanied by the flotilla which held his artillery."

this is why Moh Wang, who had heard rumours of what was passing, was now impatient, and uneasy in his mind.

Without loss of time he summoned his brother Wangs to a council, there and then to decide whether or no the city should be given up. He was a strong and brave soldier, one who had done

only by his interpreter, and again sought Nar Wang's house, which he reached at 11.30. There he met all the Wangs, who were mounted, and about to visit the Futai, intending to formally hand over the city to him. They were still in good spirits, and Nar-Wang said that everything was going on



GORDON AT GRAVESEND, 1867: TEACHING THE RAGGED BOYS—HIS "KINGS"

"He called them his 'kings,' and for them he got berths on board ship. One day a friend asked him why there were so many pins stuck into the map of the world over his mantelpiece, and he was told that they marked and followed the course of the boys on their voyages—that they were moved from point to point as his youngsters advanced, and that he prayed for them as they went, day by day."



well. Gordon bid them all good-bye, and made his way in the direction of Moh Wang's palace, where he had made arrangements to have the body of that chief properly buried. As he arrived at the gate of the palace he saw in the distance a large crowd standing on the bank opposite the Futai's boat, whither the Wangs had gone, and shortly afterwards an Imperialist rabble came running into the city, yelling, and firing off their muskets in the air. Gordon at once went up to the Mandarins and soldiers, and remonstrated with them, explaining that this conduct would not only frighten the Rebels, but, by making them retaliate, might occasion serious disturbance. At this moment Ching came up, looking very worried, and Gordon eagerly inquired from him whether the interview between the Wangs and the Futai had gone off in a satisfactory manner. The answer was astonishing, for it was to the effect that the Wangs had not been seen. This was incomprehensible; Gordon had himself seen the Wangs start, and only one of three things could have occurred: either they had gone to the Futai whom Ching had just left, or they had returned to their own homes, or gone back among their own rebel troops. In any case the position was awkward, and Gordon determined at once to go again to Nar Wang's house. From this, however, Ching dissuaded him, and, under the pretence of wishing to talk on important matters, led him in the direction of the North Gate. But Gordon during the whole time was ill at ease, so, indeed, was Ching; the interpreter, too, seemed to hesitate in answering and putting questions, and when at about five o'clock Ching left, Gordon turned round to the interpreter, and asked him what all the mystery meant. The latter replied that his notion was that now the Imperialists had got the city, they did not intend to keep to their agreement with the Rebels or with the Wangs. This answer decided Gordon, and he at once went off in the direction of Nar Wang's house; on his way he found a great change in the state of affairs; the Rebels were all quietly standing to their arms, while the Imperialist troops were looting and ransacking in every direction. Gordon made his way through the crowd as best he could, and eventually reached the palace, but only to find it pillaged. Nar Wang's uncle was there, and implored him to come to his house and

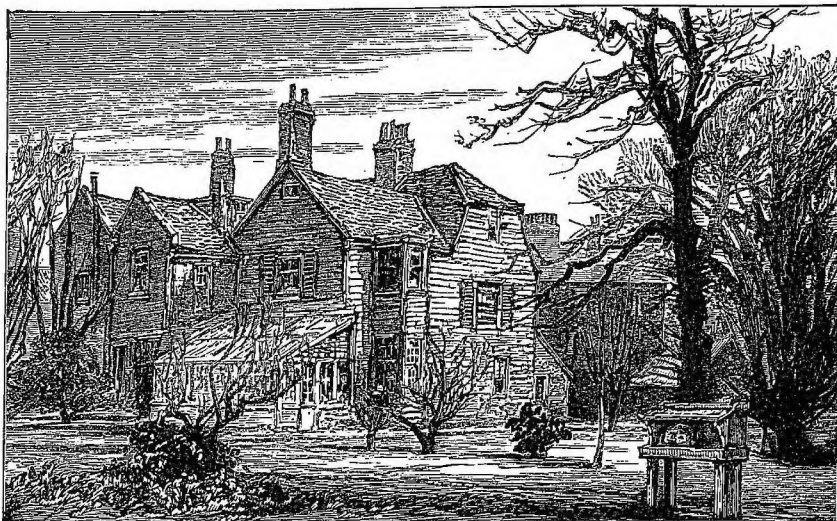
protect it. Gordon consented, and helped to transport the women there, knowing that his presence would for the time mean their safety. At 2 A.M. affairs were so desperate that he determined to send the interpreter with a message to bring up his troops, thus hoping to stop the plunder, but the interpreter was seized by the Imperialists and wounded. Gordon now felt certain that there was some treachery on the part of the Futai, and therefore decided to go

Gate in safety, where he met General Ching, to whom he declared his suspicions, and then moved on in the direction of the canal, where he expected to find his steamers. There he had to wait some little time, and while wondering whether the Wangs were dead or alive, Major Bailey came up to him with a curious message from Ching. It was to the effect that whatever had happened was not the fault of

that General, but the work of the Futai, who had ordered him to do all he had done, and had permitted the soldiers to ransack the city. Bailey said, moreover, that as soon as Ching had left Gordon, he had sat down and cried, and then alleviated his grief by shooting twenty of his own men for looting. Gordon listened attentively until the speaker had finished, then he looked up and said quickly, "Are the Wangs dead or alive?" By way of answer Bailey brought Nar Wang's son, a lad about eighteen years of age, who, pointing to the opposite bank, said piteously, "They cut off my father's head there." Gordon, without uttering another word, crossed over in the boat to the other side of the canal. There he came upon the headless bodies of all the Wangs, mutilated and ripped open. That of Nar Wang was partially buried, and the head was by its side. This Gordon picked up, and held between his hands, glancing dreamily from the ghastly features to the trunk, which was lying at his feet. He was awakened from his reverie by the approach of steamers, and as they neared the bank, he gently laid the head upon the ground, then took his revolver from its case, and started off in search of the treacherous Futai. That great official, however, was not to be found; a timely warning from Ching probably saved his life, for had Gordon met him he would have shot him dead on the spot.

For two months nothing was done, and during this time an inquiry was instituted into the action of the Futai. The result was a proclamation, in which the Futai set forth the reasons which prompted him to break his compact. His self-justification was

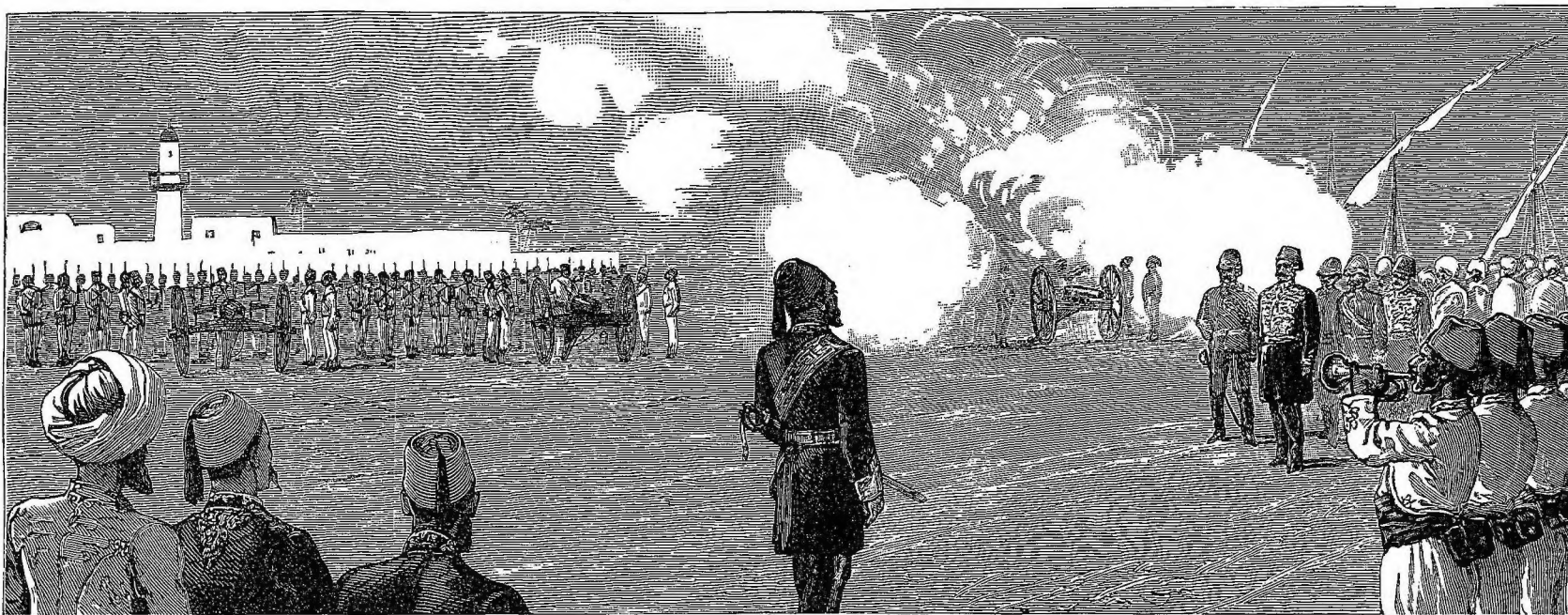
admitted by some, questioned by many; but it induced Gordon to reconsider his decision to resign, and he at once set to work to organise a fresh campaign, with the view of bringing about the fall of Nankin, and with it the complete suppression of the Rebellion.



GORDON AT GRAVESEND, 1865-71—HIS HOUSE AND GARDEN

"His house was school and hospital, and almshouse in turn—was more like the abode of a missionary than of a Colonel of Engineers."

at once and place him under arrest, hoping to be able to return in time to save the house of the Nar Wang's uncle, and meanwhile to release the Wangs if his notion that the Futai had made them prisoners should prove to be correct. He reached the East



GORDON IN THE SOUDAN, 1874—ARRIVAL AT KHARTOUM

"The Governor-General, in full uniform, came out to meet Gordon, and he landed to salutes of artillery and the strains of a brass band."

Prince Kung, the Regent, expressed his recognition of the services Gordon had already rendered by conferring upon him the rank of Tsung Ping, or Brigadier-General, and sent him a present of 10,000 taels, and liberal *batta* for his men. The rank and *batta* he accepted; the taels he indignantly refused, and, magic wand in hand, even chased the treasure-bearers from his tent-door.

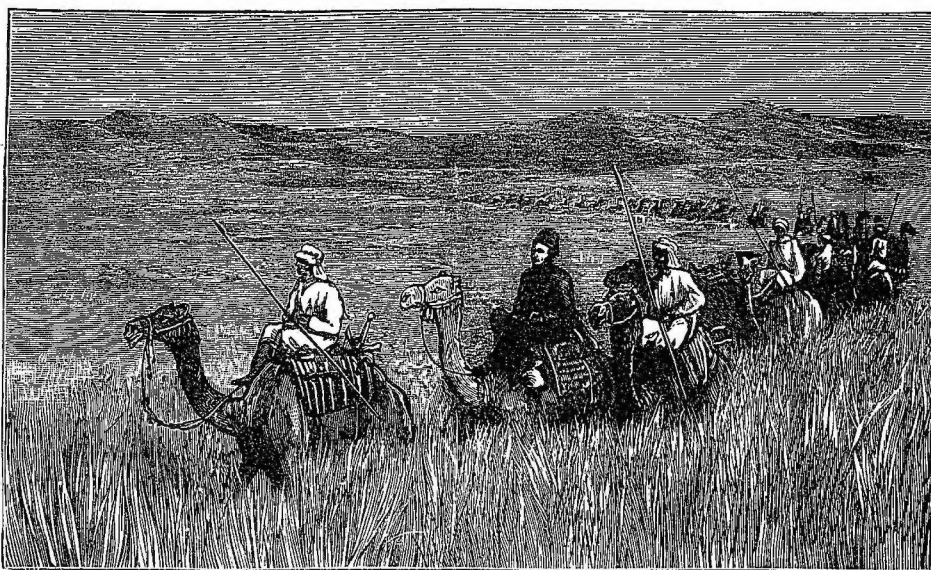
On the 19th of February, 1864, he again took the field. During the period of inaction the Rebels had regained some of their broken power, and, in the opinion of many competent judges, the destiny of the Chinese Empire was in Gordon's hands. His plan of action differed little from the one he had adopted to bring about the fall of Soochow. It consisted in attacking and subduing every Rebel town which lay between his present head-quarters and the city of Nankin. The first of these was Yesing, and every step he made towards this place reminded him of the Futai's cruelty to the Wangs. The hand of vengeance was everywhere: bleached bones of harmless peasants strewn roads and fields; men and women, gaunt and hungering, tottered about the ruins of their homes, and told him how the flying Rebels had plundered, pillaged, and destroyed. Yesing succumbed eleven days after Gordon had left his head-quarters, ten of which were spent on the road.

The next garrison, Liyang, awed at his approach, and at the amazing manner in which he had attached to himself 2,000 Rebels while on the march, surrendered almost without resistance. At Kintang, however, though at first there was every disposition to hand over the city, this was not done; for it was suddenly reinforced, and Gordon experienced a severe repulse. The place was full of the most savage and desperate of the Rebels, who came boldly out, inflicting great damage on the attacking force. Gordon himself, while leading an assault, was wounded in the leg; but, heedless of what had happened, he went on, until from loss of blood he fell, and was carried to his boat by his faithful friend Dr. Moffitt. There with great difficulty he was prevailed upon to remain for a few days. Rest, however, he would not, but continued giving his orders, until, after a series of unsuccessful efforts, he was obliged to fall back with his shattered force on Liyang. There he was greeted

with the worst news: the Rebels were working havoc in the district of his first conquest, and ravaging the country between his base and the Grand Canal. Taking advantage of the water system, he moved from place to place, still lying disabled in his boat, urging on his men to victory. The rapidity of his movements at this time, the disasters to his arms, and the dangers he himself escaped, are so varied and numerous, that it would be useless to attempt an account

for the Order in Council permitting British officers to take service under the Imperial Government was cancelled. But the back of the Rebellion was broken, and whatever else was necessary to its final suppression Gordon assisted prominently in doing. At the invitation of Tseng-kwo-fan, he paid a visit to that great generalissimo outside the walls of Nankin, and brought about its rapid fall by the tactics he proposed.

Before the city was entered the Emperor of the Great Peace had poisoned himself by swallowing gold-leaf. The condition of the garrison was almost hopeless; human flesh having been for some time their sole food. Happily these wretched creatures were dealt with mercifully, a fact attributed to Gordon's presence at the surrender. The gratitude of the Empress, the Regent, the Mandarins—in fact of all China—for the great service he had rendered was unbounded. But it was enough for him that he had done his duty, and had brought to its end a strife involving so much misery. Therefore when the Court of Peking twice sent him a fortune as his reward, he twice declined to accept it. He had spent all the surplus of his pay in contributing to the comfort of his followers, now disbanded and scattered. But he preferred the reward of his choice; and it was with great difficulty that Prince Kung persuaded him to leave the Empire a Mandarin and the bearer of the Yellow Jacket. This, however, he did, and with a magnificent gold collar which the Prince had transferred from his own neck to Gordon's, saying: "This, at any rate, you shall not refuse." The fate of this collar was the noble fate of many other gifts. On the voyage back to England a subscription was got up for a poor widow on board, and Gordon was asked to subscribe. He looked in his pocket, and there found only enough to take him home. Then he went down to his cabin, and returned with the collar, which he handed in as his contribution. The act was a symbol of his life, but especially of the six years he was about to enter on at Gravesend. There as



GORDON IN THE SOUDAN, JANUARY, 1876—AT FOWEIRA ON THE WAY TO THE LAKES

"He pushed on to Foweira, a hundred miles nearer Lake Victoria Nyanza."

of them in a limited space. It must be enough to say here that he overcame all difficulties in an incredibly short time, and achieved a crowning triumph at Chanchufu—a garrison 20,000 strong—which fell on May 11th. It was his last battle in China;

Commander of the Royal Engineers he lived a life of charity and peace, giving to the poor, and attending the bedsides of the sick and dying; and when in 1871 he was called away to his new duties at Galatz, the gratitude and sorrow that followed him were heartfelt and universal.



## SOUDAN

In entering upon the fifth stage of Gordon's career it is necessary to explain the causes which led to his being employed, first in the capacity of Governor-General of the Equatorial Provinces of Central Africa, and, secondly, as Governor-General of the Soudan. To do this clearly a glance must be taken at the whole question of the Slave Trade in the East.

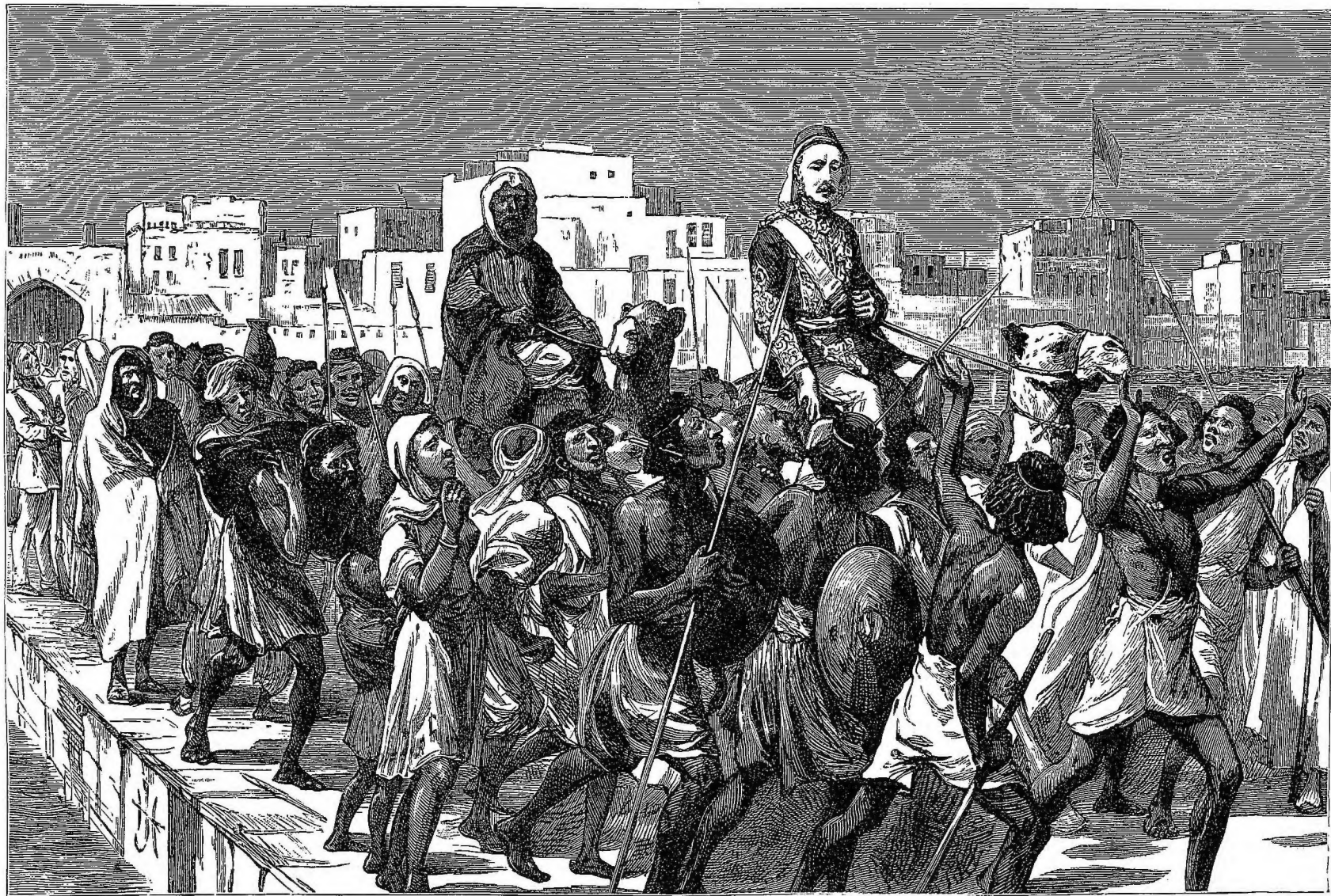
By the old Mosaic law slaves were the legitimate spoils of war. Christianity preached against this institution with might and main, and civilised Europe eventually declared it an abomination. But the doctrines of Islam, being chiefly based on the Jewish Scriptures, were more conservative, and captives taken in war were still allowed to be sold into bondage as in Jewish days of yore. Such captives were usually well treated, especially during modern times; the girls were nearly always married, or kept as concubines, the boys and men were chiefly employed in domestic labour, and not unfrequently given their liberty after a time. Thus Moslem slavery in the East contrasted favourably with Christian slavery in the West, and by Christian slavery in the West is meant slavery in America. But abuses crept in as wars died out. With the march of civilisation came the march of civilised rogues and rascals, and some of the European traders who opened up Central Africa with the intention of dealing in ivory, opened up a system of slave-dealing hitherto unknown.

Tribal feuds had always produced tribal fights, and captives became slaves and were sold here, there, and everywhere; but that was legitimate enough, and in the ordinary course of things. The European traders introduced what was illegitimate and iniquitous. They introduced the system of kidnapping, and the system of egging on one tribe to make war upon another, the sole object in view being

to obtain a human article which was marketable. They organised gangs of bandits, established fortified posts, and became a power. Then a hue and cry arose in Europe, and these European brigands had to quit. But they had already reaped a royal harvest, to which they added by selling their numerous slave stations to the Arab and native chiefs who had co-operated with them. These arranged with the Egyptian Government for the importation of their human goods, and thus a great impetus was given to the whole slave-trade. With that impetus it developed in every direction; slave-hunters became slave-kings, with organised armies, regal courts, and great riches, and by their raids and ravages turned a country that had once been a garden into a desert. The tribes upon whom these raids were made and whose lands were thus laid waste were helpless to save themselves, and so in self-defence they eventually gave up what otherwise would have been taken from them: gave up sons and daughters, sisters and brothers, everything so that they might retain their cattle, which meant their very existence. Later on they developed into robbers and thieves themselves, pillaging their neighbours, kidnapping children, and selling them to the dealers in return for a handful of corn. This made the position of the slavers stronger still, and led to their being divided into two main bodies—slave-hunters with organised forces, and slave-dealers. The first occupied mainly the territory of the Bahr Gazelle and Kordofan, where their strongholds lay; the second moved about in every direction with a small staff, kidnapping or collecting such material as was offered them by the tribes in the Equatorial province, material which represented the sellers' own offspring always, and the stolen offspring of his neighbour sometimes.

Gordon's career in Egypt and the Soudan may be divided into two distinct periods—the first in which his operations were directed against the slave-dealers; the second in which they were directed

against the slave-hunters. The one occupied him during the years 1874-5-6; the other during 1877-8-9. His first appointment, as already stated, was Governor-General of the Equatorial Province, successor, in fact, of Sir Samuel Baker. This Province extends from Rabal Chamé to the Victoria Lake, and it was here that the slave-dealers had caused especial misery among the tribes, who were now dependent upon the very authors of their wretchedness for a livelihood. Thus Gordon's difficulties were almost paradoxical: he had to suppress the dealers who had ruined the people, and yet in doing so he was bound to meet with opposition on the part of the people themselves, who now depended upon those dealers for their subsistence. Egypt was at this time possessed of only two Forts in the Equatorial Province, the one at Gondokoro, and the other at Fatiko. There were 300 men in the one and 200 in the other, and the value of these garrisons may be estimated by the fact that no occupant of either Fort could venture out in safety half a mile. This was probably their own fault, for they had been harassing the natives, taking their cattle, and in every way destroying the possibility of friendly relations being established. If, then, Gordon was to bring about any good result three main obstacles had to be overcome by three seemingly impossible achievements—first, the suppression or extinction of the slave-dealers; secondly, the conciliation of the tribes; and, thirdly, the establishment of something like civilised organisation. Hopeful as he was, and masterful as he felt himself to be, he in no way underrated the labour before him, and a quotation from one of his own letters home shows this in a most humorous way. He writes: "Last night we were going along slowly in the moonlight, and I was thinking of you all, and the Expedition, and Nubar, &c., when all of a sudden from a large bush came peals of laughter. I felt put out, but it turned out to be birds, who laughed at us from the bushes for some time in a very rude way. They are



GORDON IN THE SOUDAN, 1879—ENTERING MASSAWA

"I have a splendid camel—none like it; it flies along, and quite astonishes even the Arabs. I came flying into this station in marshal's uniform, and before the men had had time to unpile their arms, had arrived with only one man with me."

a species of stork, and seemed in capital spirits, and highly amused at anybody thinking of going to Gondokoro with the hope of doing anything."

Gordon's personal staff of Europeans numbered eleven, and of these two had died and six were very ill before Gondokoro was reached on September 11th, 1874. The Governor-General himself, Romulus Gessi, who subsequently became so distinguished, and Kemp, the engineer, represented, therefore, the available strength of the expedition. Gondokoro was itself a most unhealthy station, and Gordon's first reform was to establish a new one sixteen miles south, near Rageef, where the air was pure and the land fertile.

His next operation was the commencement of a chain of fortified posts, which was to extend from the north to the south of the Equatorial Province, and thus bring it into direct and easy communication with Khartoum. This meant incessant and arduous labour, frequent and rapid movement from one point to another, and the personal superintendence of everything that had to be done. It was during this time that he captured numerous slave dealers, all of whom he punished, and some of whom he afterwards retained in his employ, using them as allies, just as he had used the Tai-pings during the Chinese campaigns. The slaves he released, and then engaged to assist in the completion of his operations.

But the chief undertaking to be accomplished was the conciliation of the Tribes, and the restoration of a confidence which had been completely destroyed. This, the work of nearly two and a half years, was at length accomplished. Its achievement called forth those qualities which make Gordon the man he is—energy, endurance, indomitable courage and perseverance, tact, generosity, and philanthropy. But perhaps, above all, what served him most was that indescribable and mysterious power he has of winning the affections of a fellow-creature. Yet during these years he often had to strike, and to strike hard; they were years of strange adventure and of daily danger, and passed in the pain of one who suffers for the sufferings of others. Everywhere he gave and took nothing in return, everywhere he sacrificed his own comforts for the welfare of the wretched people whom he governed. What wonder, then, that

he made himself loved where he had at first been feared, and that when he returned to Cairo at the close of the year 1876, the slave-trade in the Equatorial Province was temporarily suppressed, and a miserable and poverty-stricken people restored to the prospect of comparative prosperity. One reflection weighed heavily on Gordon's mind as he journeyed towards Cairo, and it was this: "What will become of these poor people I have helped when my influence is removed from them and from those by whom they are surrounded?" and this reflection was always followed by a prayer.

Gordon arrived in London on December 24th, 1876, and he was back again in Cairo early in February. There he had a long interview with the Khédive and his Ministers, and explained how, though he had successfully checked the slave dealers in his own province, only a temporary benefit would be obtained while the extensive district of the Soudan contained the strongholds of the slave-hunters, and Khartoum remained their headquarters as a market. Ismail Pasha Yacoub, the existing Governor-General of the Soudan, had thrown every obstacle in the way of his work in the Equatorial Province, and was an upholder of the slave-trade, which greatly increased his own revenues. All this the Khédive knew better than any one could tell him, and, therefore, on Feb. 17, 1877, he said in a letter to Gordon:—"Setting a just value on your honourable character, on your zeal, and on the great services you have already done me, I have resolved to bring the Soudan, Darfour, and the Provinces of the Equator into one great province, and to place it under you as Governor-General."

This letter concluded with a request that Gordon would endeavour to bring about a settlement of the dispute then existing between the Khédive and King John of Abyssinia. Now the extent of the country thus given over to Gordon's command was about the size of Great Britain, Spain, France, Holland, Germany, and Austria, taken together, with Portugal and Belgium thrown in, and, in addition to governing the people, and suppressing the powerful slave hunters, he was charged with a diplomatic mission to the offended monarch of another country. Altogether the task was about as stupendous an undertaking as has ever fallen to the lot of

one man, yet was carried out completely and successfully in three years.

He left Cairo for Suez on February 18th, 1877, and arrived at Massawa on the 26th of the same month, from which port he wrote home:—"The Khédive has made me a Muchir, or Marshal, so I and the Duke of Cambridge are equals! He has sent me the uniform: the coat is worth 150*l.*, and covered with gold lace. He has given me all the coast of the Red Sea, even to Berberah opposite Aden. It is an immense command." The programme Gordon laid out for himself involved, to use his own words, the sacrifice of a living life. All manner of new dangers had to be encountered, and all manner of difficulties overcome. Then a prosperous province had to be made, with an efficient army, a fair revenue, and an increased trade—a province in which all slaves-raids should be suppressed; after that was done, Gordon said he would go home and go to bed, and never get up any day till noon, and never walk more than a mile. Few men have broken a resolve in a better cause than Gordon has broken this one, and most people hope that there may be no reason to regret his having done so. The first edict he issued was from Khartoum, and it was to the effect that all registration of slaves should be stopped on January 1st, 1878. Thus, after that date no new slaves could be considered property, and this edict was followed up by a special attack upon European holders of slaves, which made their slave-holding an unprofitable and expensive affair. Then came the breaking up of the Bashi-Bazouks, and with this the end of the reign of the courbash, or lash. After this Gordon left Khartoum with a small force, intending to relieve the garrisons of Fascher, Dara, and Kolkol, which were penned in by the Darfourians who had risen in revolt. This revolt was chiefly brought about by the cruelties of the Bashi-Bazouks, and Gordon's sympathy therefore lay rather with those now in rebellion than with those who caused them to rebel; the relief of the garrisons, however, was necessary, but when that was accomplished he intended to do away with abuses, and arrange a Government which should satisfy a people who had hitherto only been bullied and oppressed. The journey to Darfour, which was performed on camels, took five



months; but no sooner had he reached the frontier of the territory than he began to make friends among the Rebels, many of whom he converted into a body-guard for himself. Thus the relief of the garrisons was gradually accomplished, and without bloodshed. Gordon frequently rode into towns alone and unarmed, and prevailed upon the rebellious inhabitants not only to remain quiet, but even to join the forces he had left behind him. In this way the power of Haroum, the pretender to the throne of Darfour, was broken up, and the hostile tribes subjugated.

In the midst of all this was another difficulty, and one which Gordon had determined to overcome at all hazards. Darfour was the home of some of the most powerful slave-hunters in the Soudan, and one of these, Suleiman, the son of Zebehr, had a standing army of 6,000 robbers. Up to the present Suleiman and other slave-hunters had remained neutral; indeed, the former had made overtures to Gordon that they should act in concert against the Rebels, but this offer Gordon had declined, knowing the object Suleiman had in view, and also knowing that, sooner or later, he would have to be crushed, and his hideous trade swept out of the Soudan. Suleiman's stronghold was at Shaka, in the extreme south of the Province of Darfour, and from this den he had so ravaged the whole of the country belonging to the once powerful Ragazat tribe, that these people were now as wretched as the land they dared not attempt to cultivate, and upon which they had to live. Zebehr, the king of slave-hunters, and the father of Suleiman, had for years been a standing menace to the Egyptian Government; eventually he became their ally, and assisted in the conquest of Darfour; but when after this he visited Cairo, hoping by bribery to induce the Khédive to appoint him Governor-General of the Soudan, the Khédive thought fit to detain him as a hostage for the future good behaviour of his people, and that is how it came to pass that Suleiman, his son, now reigned as a robber in his stead.

It was while Gordon was dividing his attention between the Leopard tribe, who would show fight, and Haroum, who would not, that news came that Suleiman was now in open revolt against the Government, and had sat down with his robber force before Dara. Gordon's action was instantaneous. Telling his escort to follow as best they could, he mounted his camel, and rode off alone and unarmed in the direction of Dara, a distance of eighty-five miles, and reached that place in a day and a-half, his only escort being a swarm of flies which had followed him during the last seven miles of his ride. The people of Dara were amazed at his sudden appearance, and for some time could scarcely believe he was a reality and not a phantom. He went straight to bed, and at dawn donned his golden uniform, and rode out with a few Bashi-Bazouks towards the slaver's camp. On the way he was met by Suleiman himself, and conducted to the tents of the other chiefs, who were dumbfounded at his coming among them. After drinking a glass of water, he told Suleiman to come to his divan and bring all his family with him. Suleiman did so, and then Gordon told him that unless he sent in his submission at once he would cut his whole army to pieces. Suleiman, believing Gordon to be supported by a large force, sent in a letter of submission on the following day, and when he had done so lay down and remained silent for hours; this led the Arabs to believe that Gordon had poisoned him with coffee. For a long time after this Gordon was actively engaged in bringing about the surrender of other slave-hunters who were allies of

Suleiman, and when this task was completed he returned to Khartoum. Thence he journeyed to Cairo at the request of the Khédive, who invited him to become President of the Finance Inquiry, but being unable to mould his views on this question to suit those of others he soon returned to Khartoum. On arriving he heard that Suleiman was again in open revolt, and had proclaimed himself Lord of the Province. Gordon at once despatched Gessi, who for months was actively engaged against Suleiman with indifferent success, and during part of this time Gordon broke up the whole of the slave hunter's den at Shaka. At length Gessi met with complete success, Suleiman's forces were routed, and the slaver had to go into hiding. For this Gordon made Gessi a Pasha, presented him with 2,000,000, and recommended him for the Second Order of the Osmanieh. A few months later Suleiman was captured, and with other slave chiefs condemned to be shot. This was the end of all slave-hunting in the Soudan during Gordon's governorship, and the result was that Gordon for the first time found leisure to pay a visit to King John, at which by his tact and diplomacy he prevented war between Egypt

great satraps, and by his counsel prevented the horrors of war, perhaps defeat. Then bidding them farewell, he left behind him a manifesto, the terms of which they have since taken to heart, and are now profiting by in their present difficulties with France.

A year passed in the fulfilment of the duties of commanding the Royal Engineers at Mauritius, and then came the fiasco at the Cape, which has been so little understood by Englishmen at home. The history of it, in brief, is this: He was invited there to assist in terminating the war, and in administering Basutoland. Instead of this the only post offered him was that of Commandant-General of the Cape forces, a position he had declined two years before. The Ministry still continued to declare that they wanted him to deal with the Basuto question, which was then in the hands of another, whom they wished to displace, yet dared not lest the step should overturn the Ministry. To mend matters they said his appointment was temporary, and asked his advice on the position of affairs. Thereupon Gordon drew up a Memorandum, in which he set forth that the Basutos had been unfairly dealt with, because in the alteration of their government their own wishes had never been consulted, and he suggested that they should be invited to a Conference to discuss the terms of their agreement with the Colonial Governor. This Memorandum, valuable to a degree, was ignored. He also drew up an able and exhaustive report on the Colonial Forces at the request of the same Government, but, like the Memorandum which preceded it, it received no attention. He was asked to draw up other reports, and to suggest means of reform in grievances he discovered, but with the same result. In fact, while they formally called him Commandant-General, they used him as adviser and administrator, but neither took his counsel nor supported his efforts. Of this, indeed, Gordon took occasion to remind them in so many words, when a little later they asked him to pay a visit to Basutoland and confer with their President. This he declined to do, as his views were entirely opposed to those of their representative. On being urged, however, he consented to go in a private capacity on a mission to Masupha, an unfriendly chief. No sooner had he opened negotiations than the Minister at whose behest he had gone despatched a force against Masupha, thus imperilling Gordon's life, and bringing all possibility of a friendly solution to an end. What wonder if under these circumstances he resigned, and quitted the only country that had failed to understand or appreciate the value of his services?

It was his opportunity for a term of repose, and he seized it. He went to the Holy Land, and there found relief in labours of his own choosing—the survey of the holy sites—until he was called to Europe by the King of the Belgians, and invited to lead an expedition, long planned, to the Congo. He had bidden good-bye to his friends, and was on his way to the scene of his mission when the British Government telegraphed to him to return. This he did without a moment's delay, and the same day that saw him arrive at Charing Cross from Brussels, his first stage, saw him depart on his present Mission to the Soudan. The good work he has already done and is still doing for the relief of that suffering territory, is probably known even to those who have asked who Chinese Gordon is and what he has done.

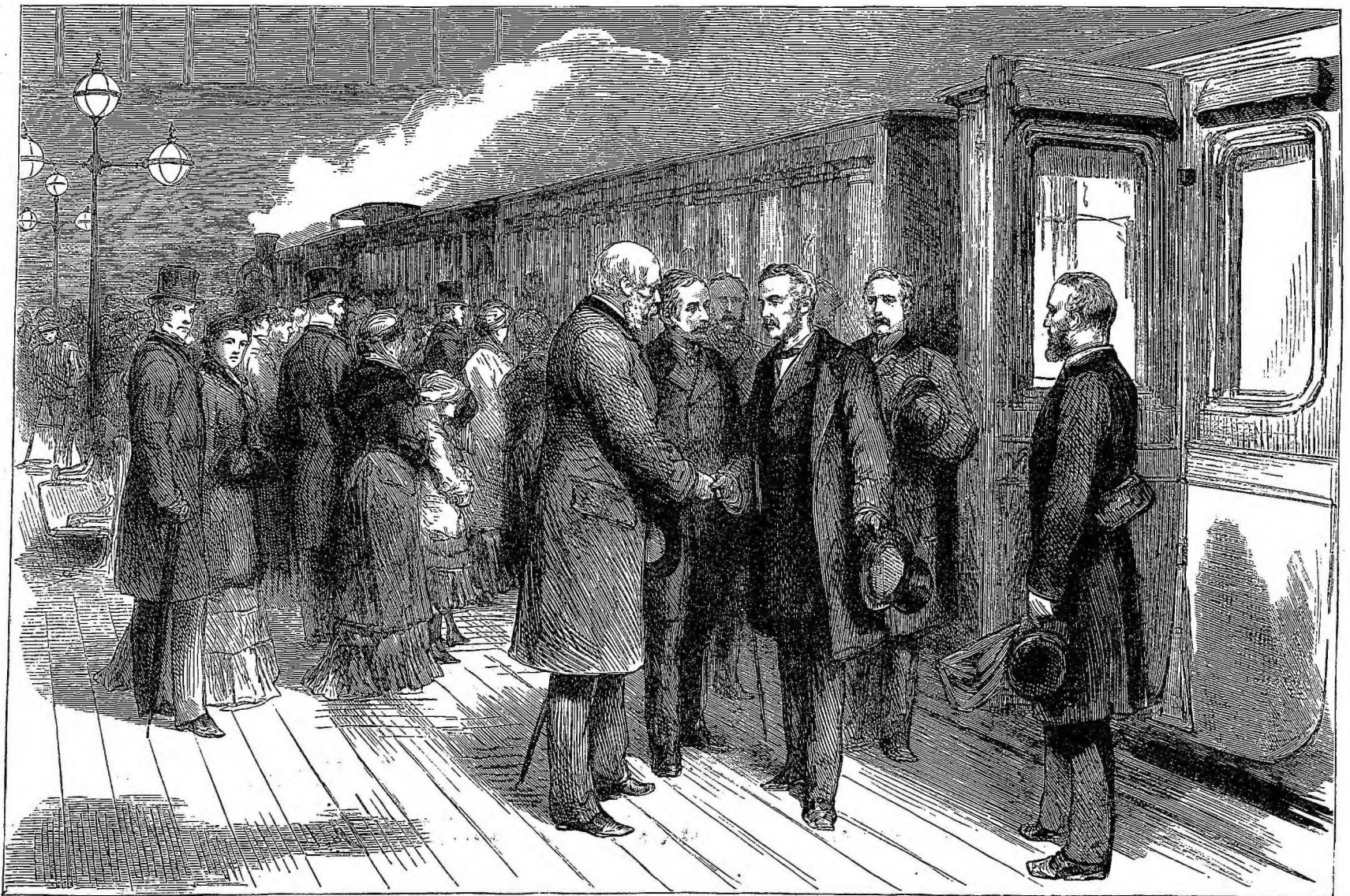
NOTE.—The quotations underneath our illustrations are selected by Mr. Egmont Hake from his book, "The Story of Chinese Gordon" (Remington and Co.), which is now passing into its ninth edition. The illustrations themselves are based on photographs and other materials which Mr. Egmont Hake has lent to us.



GORDON IN ABYSSINIA, 1872—RECEPTION AT DEBRA TABOR

"On October 27, without further adventure, he arrived at Debra Tabor, convinced that Aloula had sent him through a network of by-ways to impress him with the difficulties of the country in case the Khédive should declare war."

and Abyssinia. With this service his career in Egypt and the Soudan terminated. He was not permitted to rest long. Before he had been many months in England, Lord Ripon, who had just been appointed Viceroy of India, asked him to become his Private Secretary. Gordon accepted the offer. The world was amazed; nor was its astonishment less when a few days after his arrival at Bombay the ex-Governor-General resigned a post in which he felt he would be useless. Shortly afterwards he was about to sail for Zanzibar to help the Sultan in an onslaught upon the slave trade, when an urgent message came in which changed his whole plans. It embodied a request that he should forthwith start for Pekin and give his old friends the Mandarins the benefit of his advice in a crisis then pending. China and Russia were on the brink of war, there was dissension in camp and court at Pekin, and the man who had saved China in her sorest strait some twenty years before was looked to as her deliverer now. He straightway went to head-quarters; conferred with the



Duke of Cambridge Lord Wolseley General Gordon Colonel Stewart

# THE PRESENT MISSION TO THE SOUDAN—"GOOD-BYE" AT CHARING CROSS STATION

"The same day that saw him arrive at Charing Cross from Brussels, saw him depart on his present mission to the Soudan."